

(ii) Statement (in English and Hindi giving reasons for not laying simultaneously Hindi version of the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5KM/73 for (i) and (ii)].

(b) (i) Annual Report of National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay, for the year 1971-72.

(ii) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying simultaneously Hindi version of the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5106/73 for (i) and (ii)].

(c) (i) Annual Report Of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the year 1971-72.

(ii) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying simultaneously Hindi version of the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-510V73 for (i) and (ii)].

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Social Science Research for the year 1971-72. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5103/73]

SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

SHRI PITAMBER DAS (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I present the Second Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SITUATION ARISING OUT OF CONTINUED
NON-AVAILABILITY OF COTTON YARN IN
SPITE OF CONTROL OVER ITS DISTRI-
BUTION

श्री जेम प्रकाश त्यागी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमान्,

मैं आपकी आज्ञा से सूती धागे के वितरण पर नियंत्रण के बावजूद उसके उपलब्ध न हो पाने के कारण देश के विभिन्न भागों में लाखों बुनकरों के बेरोजगार हो जाने से उत्पन्न स्थिति की शोर वाणिज्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA): Sir, the statutory control on pricing and distribution of cotton yarn was announced by me in a Statement in the Lok Sabha on the 9th March, 1973. This was made in the wake of the continued shortage of yarn to the decentralised sector, consisting of handlooms, powerlooms and hosiery units, due to power cuts varying from 15 to 75 per cent in the major yarn producing centres and the consequent price spiral. Formal orders declaring the controlled prices and distribution channels were issued by the Textile Commissioner on the 13th March, 1973. After taking into account the availability of yarn for the decentralised sector, the Textile Commissioner made *ad hoc* allocations to the various State Governments on the 19th March, 1973; these allocations covered the latter half of the month of March. Simultaneously the State Governments were called upon to set up distribution agencies within their States who were to be responsible for liaison with the mills from which allotments had been made to the State Governments, for lifting the yarn from the mills and arranging distribution to the decentralised sector. The State Governments were also informed that in case Central Government's assistance was needed, Cotton Corporation of India would be directed to act as their sole selling agent. They were also called upon by the Textile Commissioner to intimate their countwise requirements of the cotton yarn. At the same time, the mills were directed to send their count-wise production of free yarn so that allotments based on actual requirements of the States could be made from April 1973 itself. It was also reported that large stocks of yarn had been hoarded by traders with a view to make profits. To

[Prof. Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya]

unearth these stocks, the Textile Commissioner issued Notifications on 31st March, 1973 delegating his powers to the District Magistrates to call upon the traders to declare their stocks, to seize the hoarded stocks and dispose them of at a price prescribed by a formula contained in the Notification. All the Chief Ministers, Governors and Chief Commissioners of the various States and Union Territories were also informed of the action taken by the Central Government and their cooperation in reaching the cotton yarn to the decentralised sector was also solicited. The State Governments were further informed that they would be permitted to utilize such quantities of hoarded yarn as were recovered by them, in addition to the quotas allotted by the Textile Commissioner. Besides, where State Governments have given additional power to spinning mills, they would be permitted to appropriate the additional production of yarn for their own States.

A meeting of the Review Committee, consisting of the representatives of the State Governments, mills etc., set up under the Control Scheme, was held in Bombay on the 11th April, 1973, to take stock of the position and to discuss the problems faced in the implementation of the control orders. It was revealed in the meeting that though allocations for the second half of March, 1973, were made on the 19th March, 1973, the yarn had not started reaching the weavers even in the first week of April, 1973. It was found that some State Governments did not have the necessary agencies, or even if the agencies had been set up, they did not have sufficient funds to invest in the purchase of yarn. Some of the State Governments did not have the necessary infra-structure to carry out the distribution. The State Governments did not also have the figures of their count-wise requirements of yarn. There was also some difficulty with regard to payment to mills in respect of yarn allotted to the States. While the mills were insisting for payment for full value in advance, the State Governments were of

the view that no such deposits and/or payments in advance were necessary and documents should be sent through the banks by the mills. All the above problems were discussed in the meeting and suitable remedial measures have been taken. It was also decided to set up a high level Implementation Committee in each State to keep I close liaison with the Mills and watch proper distribution of yarn allotted to each State.

The Textile Commissioner did not have the count-wise requirements of the States j upto the middle of April, 1973. He, therefore made *ad hoc* allocation of yarn to States again on the 17th April, 1973, the intimation of which was received in most of the States on the 21st April, 1973. In this allocation also, certain counts of yarn not required by the States had been reported. They were advised to contact the Textile Commissioner forthwith so that necessary corrective measures could be taken by him.

The Commerce Secretary also met the Chief Secretaries of nine States in Bombay on the 29th and 30th April and 1st May 1973 and had detailed discussions on the difficulties faced by the States in the distribution of yarn. Suitable corrective measures have been taken and the distribution system in the States is being streamlined on the lines decided upon in the meeting.

The scheme of control over the distribution of yarn has, however, received a set back even in the initial stages. A large number of writ petitions have been filed by the yarn traders in the High Courts at Delhi, Chandigarh, Jodhpur, Ahmedabad, Allahabad and Bangalore. They have also obtained stay of implementation of the control orders. While action is being taken to get the stay orders vacated, a part of the distribution cannot be effected due to these orders and mills are under orders of the Court to execute existing contracts with the traders. One mill from Tamil Nadu has also obtained stay orders from the Supreme Court.

While there had been some difficulties in the initial stages, the situation is improving. With the proper functioning of the high level Implementation Committees at the State level, necessary rapport has since been established between the mills and the State nominees and the movement of yarn to the weavers has been accelerated. The Textile Commissioner has also been keeping a close watch to plug the loopholes, if any, or difficulties reported afresh. The Textile Commissioner's office has also been strengthened to have an effective control over the allotment and distribution of yarn. Every effort is being made to see that the decentralised sector get the yarn required by it to the extent possible in the over all shortage of yarn.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra): Sir, don't you think that when such an important issue is raised and the Minister makes such a long statement, care should have been taken to circulate it beforehand so that we could follow the points? Otherwise what is the use of discussing because this is a long statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Call Attention statement is not given beforehand.

PROF. DEMPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : I am ready to answer any question they would like to put.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, simultaneously it can be circulated. Unlike Question Hour I know that statements in reply to Calling Attention are not circulated beforehand but as the Minister starts speaking it can be circulated at least to those who have put the Calling Attention. Otherwise it will be difficult.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, सभी मंत्री महोदय ने बड़ी ईमानदारी से इस बात को स्वीकार किया, इनको मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ, कि जब से इन्होंने सूत के कंट्रोल को स्थापित किया है उसके बाद से इनको अनुभव हुआ है कि बहुत से राज्यों के पास पैसा भी नहीं है, वितरण की व्यवस्था भी नहीं और उनको यह भी ज्ञान नहीं है कि

उनको कौन से काउंट यार्न या किस-किस किस्म के सूत की आवश्यकता होती है। ऐसा होते हुए भी सरकार ने सूत के वितरण पर नियंत्रण लागू कर दिया। जब प्रान्तों को ज्ञान नहीं था, ऐसी स्थिति में मैं समझना हूँ कि तब तक जब तक कि प्रान्तों को आप तैयार नहीं कर लेते इस सूत कंट्रोल की व्यवस्था का औचित्य नहीं है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब प्रान्त पूर्णतया तैयार नहीं थे, तो आपने इस व्यवस्था को क्यों लागू किया? सभापति महोदय, सरकार को इस अदूर-दर्शिता का कुपरिणाम यह हुआ है, मैं कोट करता हूँ पेपर से, कि:-

"Nearly 80 per cent of the handlooms and 25,000 powerlooms providing livelihood to about 40 lakhs of people in Uttar Pradesh have been closed due to yarn shortage".

श्री सभापति : आप कृपा करके सबाल पूछिये, क्लैरिफिकेशन के लिए।

डा० भाई महावीर (दिल्ली) : इतना बड़ा काइ-मिस पैदा हुआ है और वह कह रहे हैं कि It is being accelerated and there are only small difficulties; trying to bluff everybody.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, मैं सबाल पूछता हूँ। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जब से यानी 13 मार्च, 1973 को आपने सूत कंट्रोल और प्राइस कंट्रोल किया, वितरण पर कंट्रोल लगाया है, उसके पश्चात् क्या सूत के अभाव के कारण बुनकरों को सूत न जा सका या सूत के रहते हुए भी आपकी व्यवस्था के कारण बुनकरों को सूत न जा सका? क्या यह समाचार सच है कि उत्तर भारत की 14 मिलों के पास लगभग 42 लाख 71 हजार के 0 जी० सूत उनके स्टॉक में पड़ा हुआ है और विभिन्न प्रान्तों को जो कोटा अलाट किया गया था वह उन्होंने नहीं लिया? तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपके टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर की ओर से विभिन्न प्रान्तों को जितना कोटा निर्धारित किया गया उसके पश्चात् पहली मई तक किन्-किन प्रान्तों

[श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी]

ने सूत मिलों से उठाया और कितने सूत का वितरण किया गया ?

सभापति महोदय, दूसरी बात में यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो आपने अभी स्वीकार किया है कि बहुत से प्रान्तों के पास अभी तक कोई वितरण की व्यवस्था नहीं है और उनको काउन्ट यार्न की आवश्यकता है इसका भी ज्ञान नहीं है, तो जब तक उनकी व्यवस्था पूर्ण न हो क्या आप इस कंट्रोल में कोई शिथिलता लायेंगे या उसे वापस लेने का विचार करने हैं या आप अपने काटन कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया को यह निर्देश देने को तैयार हैं कि विभिन्न प्रान्तों का निर्धारित कोटा वह ले ले और उसके लिए पैसा दे दे ताकि मिलों का काम चले । मिलों के पास सूत जमा हो गया है, उनका खपता अंशक हो गया है, वे इस प्रकार की शिकायतें कर रहे हैं । ये सब चीजें हैं ।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है, धन्यवाद ।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, अभी धन्यवाद मत कहिये ।

श्री सभापति : आप ही आघ घंटा लेंगे, तो कैसे होगा । और काम भी है । सिर्फ यही काल अटेंशन नहीं है ।

श्री नवल किशोर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : काम तो बहुत थोड़ा रह गया है ।

श्री सभापति : यह काम थोड़ा करें तब तो ।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : तो क्या सरकार यह नियम बनायेगी कि टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर किसी प्रान्त को जो कोटा निर्धारित करे उसके 15 दिन के अन्दर वह कोटा उठा लिया जाय और काटन कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया उस सूत को उठा ले । बुनकरों को काउन्टवाइज यार्न की जितनी आवश्यकता है वह उनको समय पर मिल, क्या इसकी कोई व्यवस्था करने का विचार सरकार ने किया है । इसके अतिरिक्त बुनकर सूत समय पर खरीद सकें, इसके लिए उनको कोई आर्थिक सहायता देने की व्यवस्था क्या सरकार ने की है ।

श्री सभापति : अब बहुत हो गया । कई दर्जन सवाल हो गये ।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, एक सवाल और कर लूँ । क्या यह भी सत्य है कि कई मिलों ने इस कंट्रोल आर्डर को कमजोरियों का अनुचित लाभ उठाकर जो आपने उनको काउन्टवाइज यार्न तैयार करने का आदेश और निर्देश दिया था उसको उन्होंने नहीं माना । ऐसा मिल भविष्य में अनुचित कार्य न कर सकें और जो उनका निर्धारित कोटा है उसको वे तैयार करें, इसके लिए सरकार उनको क्या निर्देश दे रही है ।

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Sir, I have noted down that the hon. Member has raised as many as eight questions and I will briefly touch upon each. He asked whether it was advisable on our part to introduce the scheme without being sure of the adequacy of the infra-structure for distribution. In this connection, I would like to submit two things. One is, before we introduced the scheme we consulted the State Governments. The meeting was attended by senior Ministers, including the Chief Ministers from different States. The decision was unanimous, not merely on the basis of consensus. It was unanimously decided upon. The scheme was not only called for, but urgently called for. You will, Sir, recall that Parliament itself endorsed it without any reservation. So, in reply to part of the question, whether the infra-structure is adequate or not, we raised this question and we discussed it. We anticipated certain difficulties. We also anticipated the difficulties of the weavers. In spite of the difficulties, if we had not introduced the scheme, the difficulties and the plight of the weavers would have been much more serious. So, we have taken an overall decision assessing the *pros and cons* of the thing. The second question is related to the count-wise information. I have already submitted in my statement that there is a lack of correspondence between the count-wise production pattern and the count-wise demand pattern. This information we could not have and we did not have. The reason is very simple.

Because all these years these informations were with the private trade channels and the Government did not trade in this field. So, in the Government's offices we did not have these informations. Now, the private trade channels which have been adversely affected.. .

SHRI BANARSI DASS (Uttar Pradesh): You are not clarifying, you are simply confirming what he says.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : It is something correct. | Why shall I disconfirm it? If he says something true, I have to confirm.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is already 20 minutes.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): He does not know this art.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : The point is, count-wise information was not with the Government but with the traders. But the traders in order to thwart and resist the scheme, to sabotage it, they did give the information. It was only their move to thwart, frustrate and defeat the scheme. So, the information was not available. Now, the State Governments are supplying the information to the Textile Commissioner. Now, we can tell, and we are telling, the mills what sort of yarn and what count of yarn we need and they are producing that sort of yarn, and the situation is improving accordingly.

The third question is whether there is stock-piling in the mills in the south of India. I have said that it is not only in the south ...

SHRI O. P. TYAGI : North India. I said.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Both North and South India—in the mills they are stock-piling; on the other hand, the poor weavers are starving for lack of yarn. It is a very

anomalous situation. But it is quite understandable in the context of the facts — the information about the required demand of the weavers not being with the State and therefore not being with the Textile Commissioner, we cannot give them the sort of yarn that they need.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Why don't you seize the yarn? Have you done so?

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : In many cases, Yes. I will come to this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ghosh, I have not called you to put a question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: This is parliamentary intervention.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : I will come to this question later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a limit to which the yarn can be spun.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : The question is, as I have said, first allotments were, *ad hoc* and we could not do it otherwise because the information was not there. Now, we have informations. So, there is now a correspondence between the demand pattern and the production pattern. So the stockpiles which were there with the mills both in the south and in the north, they are leaving towards the State, and the stockpiling question is not in that acute form as it was two or three weeks back.

Coming incidentally to the question raised by Mr. Ghosh.. .

MR. CHAIRMAN: ' You need not answer Mr. Ghosh.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Just incidentally, because ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not mention Mr. Ghosh.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : I am sorry, Sir. What I say is this. We are lifting these stockpiles. We have asked the Cotton Corporation of India to seize these, to lift these, and purchase these yarn from the mills and also they are doing it now. The State Governments have been authorised to seize the hoarded yarn and some Governments have seized the yarn. For example, the U. P. Government has seized seven lakh kgs. of yarn. Now, that has gone to their quota. So, we have provided in the scheme—the State Governments, in addition to their allotted quota, if they seize something, they get it, and they have got it.

Now, the fundamental question that has been raised by Tyagiji is, why we have entered into the scheme without adequate preparations. Whenever we enter a scheme in a field, a new field for the Government to tread over, we are bound to face some initial difficulties. The only question is, when we faced it. We faced it at a time when the supply was at its acute form, because the price rise was very much unjustified and very steep. If at that time we do not take some measures Sir, we are justifiably criticised by the House. So, because of the view expressed by the hon. Members in the House and outside also in the press, we had to intervene. I think we did the right thing at the right time.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Sir, the question was why did they do it without adequate preparation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am seeking co-operation from all sides. We have already taken 25 minutes and you have now stood up to interrupt the Minister...

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: It is not a question of interrupting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow you.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Do you mean to say that whatever he might say we should keep silent ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I mean to say we must finish the Call Attention.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : श्रीमन् 25 मिनट तो लगा लेकिन 15 से 20 मिनट तो मिनिस्टर साहब ने लिया। आप उनको नहीं रोकते।

श्री सभापति : मैने देखा लिया था कि कितना समय लिया था।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आप उनको इतना टाइम लेने देते हैं।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Why did they do it without preparation? He did not say a word about that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete the answer.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: He has disposed of that question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Half an hour we have taken in replying to only one Member. How can the Call Attention be finished in this way? It is not a debate.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : The Minister should answer the point why did they do so without preparation?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has put eight questions.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Is it the fault of the hon'ble Member? The question is so important. People are starving.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have a debate then. Why have a Call Attention? Have a regular debate. You cannot convert the Call Attention into a debate.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA" : Sir, if you so desire I can be very brief. He raised eight questions. I have noted them. If you desire I can be very brief. But I thought I should give all the information.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आपका जवाब इतना लम्बा चौड़ा होगा तो फिर . . .

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: I can be very brief.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: If this is the way the hon'ble Member wants to behave in this House I am sorry. He raised eight questions. The hon'ble Minister is trying to be forthright and quite truthful. I feel that Dr. Bhai Mahavir has no respect for truth and candid statement made in the House and they are very much worried today. On the contrary, the Minister should have been congratulated that he has given a straightforward answer.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Since my name has been mentioned, please permit me to reply. Let us see who has more respect for truth. That will be decided not in the way my friend, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, is trying to do. I said that when a question is asked and in the statement it is clear that the Government had not made adequate preparation there are bound to be supplementaries. My friend asked why do you nationalise, why do you take over without adequate preparation, he has not answered that. And Mr. Chandra Shekhar says that he is trying to be forthright, truthful and so on.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has already said that in any situation when we nationalise, these initial difficulties will come.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Difficulties have arisen because you take the step first and think afterwards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request the hon'ble Members to give me co-operation because we have not been able to finish even the questions put by one Member and we have already taken 28 minutes.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: Sir, I was touching upon

the sixth question raised by Tyagiji. He asked what is the Government going to do if the State fails to lift the quota. To that I answered that we have the Cotton Corporation of India which now lifts the quota. The seventh question which he raised was whether the Government is prepared to relax the scheme. Sir, the scheme has been adopted unanimously by two State Governments and endorsed massively by both Houses of Parliament. I cannot do it on my own instance unless they say so. I think, Sir, because of the difficulties we should not think in terms of relaxation of it. We should think of different agencies taking remedial measures to make it successful, and in that respect the co-operation from all quarters of the House, including the friends in the Opposition, is solicited. He asked what was the allotment to U.P. Sir, for the period March to June roughly 130 lakh Kilograms have been allotted for U.P. and another 35 kilograms are in the pipeline. These are the points raised and I have touched upon them.

श्री ओउमप्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, मेरा सवाल क्या था वह समझे नहीं ।

श्री सभापति : अब इस पर आध चंटा हो गया, आप बैठ जाइये ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आप बैठने को कहते हैं, सवाल का जवाब दिया नहीं ।

श्री सभापति : अब आप क्या कह रहे हैं ? मैंने कहा आध चंटा हो गया है ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : जवाब उन्होंने दिया नहीं । सवाल क्या था जवाब क्या दे रहे हैं ?

श्री सभापति : यह कोई परीक्षा नहीं है, एक-एक सवाल को लेकर तीन-तीन मिनट खड़े हो जाएं ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : बिना समझे राष्ट्रीयकरण किया, बिना समझे जवाब दे रहे हैं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let me go on with the next Member. Mr. Goray.

श्री ओउम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, मेरा सवाल यह था कि बुनकरों को आर्थिक सहायता करेगे कि नहीं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Mr. Goray. I cannot give more than half an hour to one Member.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: Sir, am I to answer the question raised by Mr. Tyagi?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, if you have not answered it, you may answer it.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: This is the ninth question he has raised.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, the ninth question I do not allow. Yes, Mr. Goray.:

श्री ओउम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, जब मेरा सवाल था तो उन्हें जवाब क्यों नहीं देने दिया ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please, I have called Mr. Goray.

श्री ओउम प्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, मेरे सवाल का जवाब रद्द गया ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tyagi, I have not called you.

श्री ओउमप्रकाश त्यागी : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी जवाब देने को तैयार हैं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I cannot allow any more time to you.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Sir, this is a very important issue because it involves lakhs of handloom and powerloom weavers throughout the country. I am concerned very much because nearly 50 per

cent of the powerlooms are in Maharashtra, and the shortage of yarn is felt acutely in centres like Malegaon, Bhi-wandi, etc., where the powerlooms are located. Sir, it is a very strange thing that though the Minister told us that this decision was taken after full deliberations with various Ministers of the States, in the latter half of the statement, he has pointed out that neither adequate funds were there nor was there any infra-structure. He has raised a very fundamental issue. A particular Central policy is announced and people are assured that it is after full deliberations with the Ministers concerned in the various States. Now, is it correct to say that after all these precautions had been taken, it was discovered afterwards that neither the finances were ready nor the infrastructure was ready? Then it means putting the cart before the horse. Now, having known that this measure was taken without any adequate preparation, what steps does the Government propose to take to meet the situation? Now the conventional channels of distribution have been disrupted. New channels have to be established. And this thing will take a long time. Meanwhile, what will happen to the distribution of yarn to the hundreds and thousands of weavers who are self-employed? On the one hand, the Government is saying that it is allocating certain sums to remove unemployment. On the other, it is following a policy by which people who are already in employment are thrown out of employment for no fault of theirs.

Sir, he has also mentioned that there is a stay order by various High Courts. I would like to know how they propose to go round the stay order or/1 to act as if the stay order was not there. And so long as the stay order is there, what will happen to the stocks? The position is very anomalous. On the one hand, there are stocks piling up. On the other, there are weavers who are starving for want of yarn. This has happened in the northern region as well as in the southern region. Perhaps you would have noted

that the Maharashtra Government entered into a deal on their own with the Tamil Nadu Government by which they agreed to give some of their electricity to Tamil Nadu and in return asked for yarn. Now is this the way—the States have deals between themselves and the Centre just looks on, thinking that the policy will somehow ultimately succeed? Therefore my question is: What do you propose to do immediately in view of the stay order of various High Courts? What do you propose to do immediately in order to see that these weavers get yarn? And have you taken care to see that all types of yarn, for the warp, the woof and the border, are made available to the weavers in adequate quantity?

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: About the plight of the weavers referred to by the honourable Member there are no two opinions. In fact, it is because of this thing that we stepped into the matter. If we tread on the toes of the private trade, the honourable Member, knowing the attitude of the private trade to the Government measure, could easily anticipate and appreciate this sort of resistance they will be putting up, and they have been putting up resistance. . .

SHRI N. G. GORAY: This could have been anticipated.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: It was anticipated. . .

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Then, what were you doing?

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: The question was somewhat like this. The prices were rising very quickly right from September and they were rising abnormally from January-February. If we have to be sure of the adequacy of the infrastructure, then we have to wait for another three to four months leaving time for traders to make enormous profits at the cost of the weavers. That would not have been a very

desirable state of affairs. The second question is about the funds. . .

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Why do you not put the wholesale traders in jail under the MISA?

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: It comes under the Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments are authorised under the law to take steps, serious and stringent measures. Some State Governments have taken measures and have. . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: What is that action? How many traders have been caught hold of and put in jail?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please do not answer Mr. Niren Ghosh's question Mr. Minister?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: How can you direct that, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, he is to answer Mr. Goray's question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: But this is 'part of parliamentary practice. You cannot rule it out.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, his point should be answered by Mr. Dikshit, the Marshal of the MISA, who is sitting in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are we going to finish the Calling-Attention Motion or not?'

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Really I am aggrieved, Sir. Under what rule do you say that he should not answer my question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. I can tell you, but you know the Rules. Therefore. I am not telling you.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA: I can only repeat what I had said regarding the infrastructure. Adequacy is again a question of time. So within the

[Prof. Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya] time whatever could be done, has been done. But compared to the task it was not equal. But that is being rectified and remedied and the infrastructure is being built up. About the fund I can tell the honourable Member that both the Tamil Nadu Government and the Maharashtra Government I and some other Governments have made arrangements in consultation with nationalised banks to solve the credit problem, be- I cause the traditional trade channel was not merely a trade channel, but it was also a banking channel. Now we have asked the ! Slate Governments and they have taken it up with the nationalised banks and some State Governments have already sorted out the problem and others are in the process. Now, another question was raised about j what we are doing about the court order. The court order and injunctions being there, the only thing that we could do is to cct them vacated and to get it done rs expeditiously as possible. That is what wr are doing. The other question is about Maharashtra and I fully share his anxiety. ' I myself had been there twice to look into the problems. I had a talk with the -Chief Minister even. So we are alive to the problems and we are looking into them in every way possible. The last question he has referred to is that we have not provided this sort of bilateral arrangement between the States regarding additional power supply and additional production. In the original scheme itself we provided this thing to two or three State Governments to be a sort of arrangement between themselves regarding extra supply of electricity and resultant extra production and then j that production may be distributed between themselves according to their own arange- j ments.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Why? The Government is in shambles. Why should such a Government exist at all?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nawal Kishore.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister tell me if any of the traders were arrested?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I have called Mr. Nawal Kishore.

श्री नवल किशोर : श्रीमान, मुझे इस बात

का दुख है कि सरकार लाखों बुनकरों को जिन्दगियों से खिलवाड़ कर रही है। मंत्री जी ने कहा कि उनके पास सूचना नहीं थी कि किम-किम काउन्ट का धारा कितना कितना पैदा होता है। उन्होंने कहा कि हमको एक्सपोर्ट्स नहीं था। स्टेट्स के पास फंड्स नहीं थे और उसके वितरण के लिए इनफ्र स्ट्रक्चर नहीं था। श्रीमान्, मुझे बड़ी हैरानी है कि उनके पास कुछ भी नहीं है फिर भी इतना बड़ा काम उठा लिया। साथ ही उनकी यह बात गलत है क्योंकि देश में जो धारा बनाने वाली मिलें हैं वे प्रांताओं में जनी हैं टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर का कि किम-किम काउन्ट का कितना-कितना पानं उन्होंने प्रोद्युस किया है। यह कहना कि इनफारमेशन नहीं थी, यह बात गलत है। दूसरी बात आप कहते हैं कि एक्सपोर्ट्स नहीं है लेकिन आप यूर एक्सपोर्ट्स के सब काम कर डालते हैं। फंड्स की आवश्यकता नहीं थी क्योंकि जो आपके एजेंट्स थे, नामिनीज थे वे डाइरेक्ट पैसा लेकर खरीद सकते थे। आज स्थिति यह है कि एक तरफ तो आप कहते हैं कि शार्टेज है और दूसरी तरफ 30-30 मिलियन किलोग्राम धारा नादनं मिलन के पास पड़ा हुआ है जिसको स्टेट्स उठा नहीं रही है। दूसरे जो कामें और मोडियम काउन्ट का धारा था जिसकी खपत उत्तर भारत में थी उसको आपने दूसरी स्टेट्स को प्लाट कर दिया। वे स्टेट्स उसको उठा नहीं रही है। आपके टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर को इतनी शक्त तो होनी चाहिए कि कहां किम स्टेट में किम काउन्ट के धारे को जबरन होती है और उस द्विमात्र से दिया जाता। हेन्डलूम को आप देते हैं बाई सौ ग्राम और पावरलूम को देते हैं दो ग्राम जबकि एक शिपट के लिए आवश्यकता है 15-20 किलों की। इसके माने यह हुए कि आपका प्रोडक्शन घट रहा है। आप देखें कि यू० पी० में टांटा और मऊनाबंजन में जहां साड़ियां बनती हैं मोटा धारा नम्बर 6 का श्रेजा जाता है, जहां फाइन धारा मिलना चाहिए। और जहां कारपेट बनते हैं श्याम धरती के यहाँ वहां मोटा धारा नहीं मिल रहा है। जहां महीन

को जरूरत है वहाँ मोटा और जहाँ मोटे की जरूरत है वहाँ कुछ भी नहीं। जो आपने रिटेलर्स, एजेंट्स एपो-इन्ट किए हैं स्टेट्स के अन्दर उनके एपोइन्टमेंट का कोई बेसिस नहीं है, सब एपोइन्टमेंट्स पोलिटिकल बेसिस के ऊपर हुए हैं। आज नतीजा यह है कि कार्पेट का एक्सपोर्ट कम हो गया है हैन्डलूम का एक्सपोर्ट कम हो गया है। इतना ही नहीं जो आपने उस समय स्टेटटरी कंट्रोल प्राइस रखी है वह भी ज्यादा है। पहले एक मिल पर सवा परसेंट पर आदमी को मूल मिल जाता था, अब तीन परसेंट पर देते हैं होलसेलर को और डाई परसेंट पर देते हैं रिटेलर को, साढ़े चार परसेंट और खर्चा पड़ता है इस तरह से दस परसेंट का खर्चा बैठता है।

एक दो बातें और कह कर खत्म करना हूँ। जब आपने कंट्रोल किया तो स्टेट्स ने अपना डिमान्ड बहुत बढ़ा-चढ़ा कर रखा। अप्रैल के महीने में जो डिमान्ड थाई है वह थोड़ा टाइम्स से भी ज्यादा है उस कन्जम्प्शन के जो 72 के अप्रैल के महीने में या जो वेस्ट मन्थ में भी हुआ होगा।

आखिर में एक-दो बातें और कह दूँ और यह यह कि जो सहकारी मिल हमारे बुलन्दशहर में है यह एक मजाक है कि वहाँ के लिए धागा लखनऊ से आता है और बुलन्दशहर से धागा जाता है वाट्टर। नतीजा यह है कि स्टॉक होने के बावजूद भी कहीं धागा नसीब नहीं हो रहा है और आदमी परेशान घूमते हैं। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस बात की पूरी जांच कराइए कि यह जो बंगलिया हो रही है एजेंट्स के एपोइन्टमेंट में और सब चीजों में और इसको खत्म कीजिए अन्यथा जो आपकी स्कीम है it is only adding to confusion.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHAYAYA: The hon. Member started with the assumption that I said that the infrastructure was not adequate. I did not say that. What I said was that there was some deficiency or inadequacy. Therefore, this assumption to start with was wrong.

I Then he said that there was inequitable distribution or we carried coal to New-castle starving other areas, etc. That is not true. If he could show that by quoting statistics, certainly I will look into the matter.

He spoke about carpet industry also. They asked for some 3 lakh kgs. on an emergent basis. Within seven days we sent them something more than that, namely, 5 lakh kgs. We have given 2 lakh ka*. extra anticipating some shortfall. So, Sir, wherever information has been made available to us, not only we have met the demand, but, Sir, sometimes, as a sort of cushion, we have also given something extra, For carpets we have done it in U.P.

Then, Sir, the other thing is about the alleged bungling in respect of the dealers. I am not aware of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said something about carpets.

PROF. DFBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHAYAYA : Sir, he has raised a specific question about (he carpets. The answer is this: Whatever they have demanded from the Government, we have not only met, but gave something extra and did it within seven days.

Then, there is the question of appointment of the dealers. As you will appreciate, the appointment of dealers is a State matter. They have done it for some compelling reasons. For some local considerations they may have to revise the list slightly and I find nothing wrong in it and I find no political motivation in it. The motivation may be commercial and in the interests of the weavers.

About cross-country and inter-district movement, it may be that a spinning mill in one district is producing a sort of yarn and of a count which is not consumed in that district and in that case the crosscountry and cross-district movement be-

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comes unavoidable. So, unless there is a possible marriage between the production I pattern and the demand pattern, I cannot insist that the production of that district must be consumed in that district only, ' because the demand may not be there, but elsewhere.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Kulkarni. I hope Mr. Kulkarni will be indulgent to I the House today.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Sir, the Minister has given very valid reasons for the control. When the ! control was instituted, we were all one. Sir, even the Opposition parties which are i raising some objections were one with us in this House and we insisted that the Gov- I ernment should immediately come forward to institute control in the larger interests of the weavers and in view of the employment to be generated. Sir, I would like to ask only I three or four specific questions. Sir, the' preparation required for this was to be done by the State Governments and was the duty of the State Governments concerned. The State Governments, instead of giving proper figures and doing their home work properly, gave more figures which amount was never consumed during the last three years. Shri Nawal Kishore just now i said that in 1972 this was the production. But he may not be knowing that the present requirements of all the States come to about 18 million kgs. per month which has .J never been the case in the whole history of the country for the last ten years. But i it is not like that. But, Sir, it is the general feeling that everybody wants the yarn and the prices have risen. The fact is th;it everybody wants yarn. It is not the fault in production, but only in distribution. The \ preparation for this was not proper and the distribution was not proper particularly in the Northern States. I know, Sir. Tamil Nadu. Maharashtra and Gujarat are pro- | perly maintaining the system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly put your! question. Do not answer Nawal Kishoreji.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am not answering him, Sir. But I am suggesting certain things.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: You put your question now.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, it has been said that the complaint* of the mill-owners are also valid in this connection. Stocks are piling up with the mills and in these States the distribution machinery has not been properly organised. I think the Cotton Corporation of India has not come to the aid of these mills by lifting cotton and making it available to the weavers. I think the Cotton Corporation of India must be geared into service in these areas. I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether the Cotton Corporation of India has been brought into the picture in these areas and, if not, what steps has the Government taken to see that the situation improves here?

May I know whether the Minister is aware that in view of the control on count combination, complexities in production are so much that the control on the lower counts of yarn has to be relaxed and liberalised to a certain extent? May I also know from the Minister whether the States also have suggested to the Government in this connection that the control on count combination at lower level, up to 134 counts and below, be relaxed so that a majority of the handlooms will meet their demands particularly in U.P., Bihar and some other Northern States?

They are all depending on coarser cloth. I am not asking to relax price control, Prices have, on the contrary, have risen. Prices of coarse cloth been raised by the Textile Commissioner's office for the reasons best known to them. I want to know whether there is any proposal with the Government so that at least the weavers who are using coarser counts will keep themselves employed. In this connection, I want to know whether there is any discrimination made particularly of the consu-

mer cooperative spinning mills which has been started by the Government to help the handloom and powerloom weavers in regard to their production capacity. Once having started, in which the States and the Centre have equity participation, they are not treated at par with composite mills. These composite mills which are mostly owned by big houses are running their own looms, consuming their own yarn. And you are defeating yourself.

I do not want to ask anything more.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, I will take up the last point first. Sir, the hon. Member has enquired if we are looking into the demands for special consideration for consumer cooperative mills. I can assure him that this thing is being looked into and a decision will be taken soon.

About the question regarding the possibility of decontrolling or liberalizing at least in respect of distribution machinery and not price control, I can only say what I said before that this scheme has been endorsed at different levels. So, without the concurrence and consent of the concerned Governments and the Parliament, I cannot do it. Sir, I am not quite sure about the advisability of it. But this scheme is intended to benefit the weavers. If by relaxation in some respects of distribution, we can benefit the weavers, without scuttling the scheme as a whole, then we may think of it. But that depends upon the House. I have no rigid stand on it. My main concern is to benefit the weavers.

Sir, I would like to add one word which really pains me. My friends sometimes are pointing out the inadequacy of the States' infra-structure and agencies in tackling the distribution machinery. But they have not uttered a word of criticism of unscrupulous traders who are holding the yarn, who are sabotaging...

(Interruptions)

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SHRI NIREN GHOSH: We are demanding their arrest. Why don't you arrest them?
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Niren Ghosh, please sit down...

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Why is not the Government doing that?
(Interruptions)

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have referred to my friends in the Opposition who have spoken today — not to Mr. Ghosh and Dr. Ahmad; they have not spoken. I have now heard them and it heartens me. But I don't find a single word of criticism of unscrupulous traders...

SHRI PITAMBER DAS (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, on a point of order. Sir it does not matter who has spoken. What matters is what has been spoken, whether Mr. Niren Ghosh speaks or somebody else speaks. What is the Minister's answer to that. It is not a question of personalities.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: To that I have already answered.

One point raised by Mr. Kulkarni was about the role of the Cotton Corporation of India. Its role is not national; its role is actual. In fact, the Cotton Corporation of India has been asked by the Assam Government, for instance, to undertake the distribution of yarn and so it has been given the entire responsibility of distribution system in Assam. Secondly, the Cotton Corporation of India is lifting the yarn allotted to the States but not lifted by the States, particularly in Southern India.

But there also there is a snag. Most of the yarns, not lifted, are of the lower

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counts. If we force the C.C.I. to purchase the whole lot, then it will not be a commercial proposition. So, there is some thinking at that level. They are playing a very vital role.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I asked you about the Cotton Corporation of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has mentioned about it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I wanted proper clarifications. Leave aside these traders. Traders are to be condemned everywhere. The Government is giving them protection. Can't you arrest them under the Essential Commodities Act? I wanted specifically to bring to your notice that the textile industry is complaining that the Cotton Corporation of India is not listening to their demands for taking over their goods.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPAJHYAYA: I had a talk with the Cotton Corporation of India Chairman the day before yesterday when I had been to Bombay. They are streamlining the organisation. They have some financial difficulties. Within the financial constraints, they are doing their best.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): Sir, before I put the question, I would make an appeal to you. Do you not feel that the replies given to the questions of the Opposition are of a ridiculous nature? You kindly reflect in your leisure moments and tell us later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us have some leisure first.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Kindly don't get scared because I have six or seven questions. They are very important questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put a few questions, one or two.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: My first question is: does the Government not have absolute powers for imposing restrictions on the traders, whether they are unscrupulous or scrupulous, and if so, why did the Government not collect the necessary information and figures sufficiently before hand before taking over this yarn trade? No. 2 is: according to the Minister, is the accumulation in the godowns increasing week after week or is it decreasing after the distribution system started working? I would like to know the figures. Is the latest figure of this week not more than that of last week? My question No. 3 is: while taking the consent of the Chief Ministers or the Ministers who attended the conference, did the Minister ask the concerned Chief Ministers and the Ministers whether they had taken the opinion from persons in their respective States who were to deal with the cotton yarn and whether they were ready or not? If they had said that they had taken the opinion of those officers and they were ready, what action is being taken against those officers and even against the Textile Commissioner who advised the hon. Minister here that it could be taken over?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You made an appeal to me. Now I am making an appeal to you.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: There is a place called Maunath Bhanjan in District Azamgarh which was allowed a licence for spinning because the area is a weaving centre. Is it not a fact that the yarn from there is being sent to Tamil Nadu, a place about 2000 miles away, while the local weavers are starved? Then, is it not a fact the organised sector in Pit-khwa has got 3000 bales while, in the meantime, the unorganised sector, the weaver* who are starving, have not got even an ounce of cotton and one Mr. Abid AH, the Deputy Minister of Uttar Pradesh paid a visit to that place and assured them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are overdoing it.

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SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: I am not overdoing. Kindly do not pass remarks unnecessarily.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly finish. Well, thank you very much.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: There is no Question Hour. You can be liberal today.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Because you have had half an hour.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, I very much share the anxiety and concern of the hon. Member for the poor weavers, but the question he has raised is whether we have obtained the necessary information before introduction of the scheme. This question I have already answered. All these years the trade was in private channels and whatever little information they had, they had it in the private hands and not in an organised way. Not in an all-India style. So we could not have possibly . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : One question arising out of the reply is: Could he not ask the Textile Commissioner to ask each mill-owner to supply to him information regarding the figures?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will answer it.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, you can easily imagine . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Dr. Ahmad says the Minister is discrediting socialism by his actions. That is what he says—I don't say that.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: This question which the hon. Member has raised is so pertinent and re-

levant and, if I may say so, elementary. Certainly the Ministry looked into it and we asked for the information. There are about 900 mills in the country and we have asked for the necessary information but within the past one month we could not get information from more than 200 mills. Now we are getting the information. We anticipated this elementary thing and we asked for it and we are getting it but it takes time. That is why I said that some of the mills are holding some information which they think, in many cases, would be going against their own interests. About figures regarding stockpiling, I have said that we have almost 900 mills spread all over India. Now what the stock figure of each mill is, it is not possible for me to give; it is physically impossible.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Point of order. You will kindly give your ruling on this. You have, in your wisdom, ordered a Calling Attention Motion to be put on the order paper today. The Minister pretty well knew that he would be asked this question which is very pertinent with regard to this Calling Attention Motion, and he takes the plea, without being snubbed by you, that there are 900 mills and he has not been able to collect the figures.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he says is that he cannot deal with each individual case.

SHRI LOKANATH MISHRA: Why did he not collect it till the day before yesterday? Why did he not collect it till yesterday?

(Interruptions)

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, perhaps I could not make him understand my point. What I said is that figures are fluctuating daily. Lifting of the stocks that are with the 700 mills is being done daily by the Cotton Corporation, by the Hosiery Federations and by the individual States. So, such a fluctuating

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figure I cannot give, and because it is not a static figure it is not possible.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: That is not the point. My point is whether the stockpiling is increasing or decreasing.

[PROF.- DEBIPRASAD CHATOOPADHYAYA : Generally I can say that the situation is easing and stockpiling is decreasing.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: The situation is improving and ...

(Interruptions)

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATOOPADHYAYA : The situation is improving and stockpiling is decreasing and it is a fact. They may laugh at me. they may jeer at me but this is the fact.

MR. CHAIRMAN Now you are satisfied.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We must say there is no dearth of yarns in this House : we have abundance of yarns here.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): We are in the midst of an unprecedented crisis partly because of sabotage by traders and hoarders, partly because of utter bungling of the Ministry of Commerce and partly because of the failure of the Government to take action against hoarders. Some improvement has taken place in the State of Maharashtra who have arranged an exchange of yarn for water. They have entered into understanding with two other States. The position in the State of West Bengal is half a million weavers are there with 1.60 lakhs looms and they are not getting yarn at all. On the other hand in the National Textile Mills the stocks are so huge that they have not got sufficient godowns to keep these yarns. And it is reported even by Mr. Jainal Abedin who is the Minister of Sick Industry that whereas the monthly requirement of yarn for West Bengal is about 31 lakh kilos the availability is never beyond 8 lakh kilos. What the Minister has said—I listened to his reply

very patiently—is adding salt to the wound. Instead of at all improving the supply position is deteriorating. The hoarders are hoarding. Weavers are getting more and more indebted and starvation. I would like to know from Mr. Chattopadhyaya what is the amount of yarn allotted to the State of West Bengal, whether it is not a fact that some yarn is being exported out of West Bengal to Tamil Nadu, why the West Bengal Government so far has so miserably failed to set up any Yarn Corporation and how many hoarders or textile mill owners who are illegally hoarding yarn have been arrested under MISA or DIR. Mr. Chattopadhyaya who is the unofficial adviser to Mr. Siddartha Shankar Ray knows that the DIR has been used in Indian Oxygen, which is a British monopoly concern, to ban strikes. May I know whether any single hoarder about whom Mr. Chattopadhyaya's anger is so evident, has been ! arrested anywhere in India? Has any] hoarders anywhere in West Bengal been j arrested under MISA ? Mr. Jainal Abedin who is a friend of Mr. Chattopadhyaya is stating that out of half a million weavers in West Bengal three lakhs in five Districts are starving. What have you done to those weavers ? The only reply we get is, the infrastructure is not there, we are thinking of taking action and so on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put your question now.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I am finishing, Sir I am neither Mr. Kulkarni nor Dr. Mahavir. I am straight forward and simple.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have taken more than an hour on this.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: My question is this. What is the amount of stock in the National Textile Mills in West Bengal ? How much has been exported out of West Bengal to Tamil Nadu? What is the requirement of West Bengal and what is the *ad hoc* allotment made? Why is there no State Corporation and how many people have been arrested under the DIR or

MISA 7 The question of south and north ! has been dealt with by other Members.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Sir, I can only say that the situation in West Bengal, as in other States, is as good or as bad. It is really bad -, because this is an year of shortage. I have already said that and there is no question of debtaing over a point which everybody knows. Weavers are really suffering everywhere and it is no exception in the case of West Bengal and it is not as if we are Siting idle. We are not bungling. We are in touch with the various States with those seriously disturbed States like Maharashtra. U.P., West Bengal, we are in daily touch and we know what sort of problems there are. But I can tell you that the situation has eased. The total quantum that !s moved to West Bengal is 10.80 lakhs kgs.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: What is their requirement ?

PROF. DEBI PRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : The situation is very serious. I have already said that the total demand put forward by different States adds up to more than three times the authentic demand.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : On a point of j order. I did not ask about other States. I only asked about West Bengal.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can shorten your answer.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : In April West Bengal received 11.18 lakh kgs. It has been done on an all-India basis. I can just give him the all-India basis. Calculating from the civil deliveries of yarn in 1970, which was a normal year, the average consumption per handloom and per powerloom came to .7.03 kg and 50.58 kg respectively per month which works out to 0.28 kg per handloom and 2.02 kg per powerloom per j day on a 25-day working in a month. It i was in this come.Nt at the meeting held in ! Bombay on 11th April, 1973 it was decided

that because of reduced availability, allotment should be made on the basis of 0.25 kg per handloom sufficient to produce 2.5 metres of cloth per day and 2 kgs per powerloom sufficient to produce 20 metres of cloth per day. This is a reasonable quantum under the constraints in which we work and we have supplied this to all ether States together with West Bengal.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: On a point of order. He has not answered two questions. •Vfial is the quantity of yarn locked up and hoarded by the National Textile Mills. West Bengal? Secondly—Mr. D. P. Chattopadhyaya is a brave man—how many hoarders have been arrested anywhere in India under MISA or DIR which has been used in ase of certain industries?

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : How can I answer it ? I have to consult the Home Ministry.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : The Home Minister is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. Mr. Ktnijachen. This is the last question.

SHRI P. ;K. KLN1ACHEN i Kerala) : Before putting my questions I am sorry to state that I am not at all satisfied with he statement of the Minister. The Minister has stated that he is collecting data regaiding requirements. Does he know that in Kerala 5 lakh people are in starvation 7 They are on the brink of death. It is a serious question concerning their life and death.

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When will you be able to supply them yarn? Will the Minister be able to supply vain, ample quantity of yarn, to the Kerala handloom weavers ? Till you are able to supply them yarn, will the Minister be able to supply them with free rations because they are starving ? Will you take immediate steps to distribute 3,000 bales of yarn which are lying idle in Kerala at present ? Are you aware of the statement of the South

[Shri P. K. Kunjachen]

Indian Millowners Association that 30,000 bales of yarn costing Rs. 100 crores are lying idle and nobody is taking the yarn and distributing it.' They are finding it difficult even to run their mills. How many bales of yarn have been requested by the Kerala Government and how many bales have been allotted to Kerala ? I hope he will answer these questions.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : I have already stated the facts on which Kerala or for that matter any other State is being allotted yarn. We have not as yet heard of any report of death due to starvation because of yarn shortage.

SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN : In the last two months it is there.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Yarn shortage is an all-India phenomenon. It is there.

PROF. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : I myself am proceeding to Kerala tomorrow and I will see for myself what is the problem there. About the "South India Mill Owners" Association's complaint about stockpiling there, we are aware, and I have answered the question as to what measures we are taking about it.

REFERENCE TO ALLEGED DISTORTION MADE BY ALL INDIA RADIO IN ITS NEWS BROADCAST

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Tyagi, you wanted to mention something.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, I am sorry, I am speaking from a seat which, I know, I do not deserve to occupy. After the resignation of my hon. friend, Mr. B. K. Kaul, my party has been reduced to the second position among the Opposition groups and it is now for my hon. friends to occupy but because the seat had to be rearranged, I

, Sir, on my behalf, on behalf of my colleagues and also my colleagues in the other various parties, I want to make one statement.

We would like to refer in the House today to the broadcast of the All India Radio made on 16-5-73 at 9 p.m. which is an example of *suppressio veri suggestio falsi* which means suppression of truth and suggestion of the falsehood.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL, (Gujarat) : It is a daily occurrence.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Covering the Luk Sabha proceedings of the 16th May, 1973, the newspapers (dated 17-5-73) have reported that the charge of tampering with the documents relating to acquisition of land in the vicinity of defence installations was initially made by Shri S. N. Mishra against the Government and later by Shri V. C. Shukla against Shri S. N. Mishra.

The All India Radio, however, omitted the charge levelled by Shri S. N. Mishra against the Government and only made a mention of the charge of Shri V. C. Shukla against Shri S. N. Mishra.

AH HON. MEMBER : Very bad.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : The news broadcast also omitted to say that Shri S. N. Mishra demanded that the matter be referred to the Committee on Privileges for ascertaining as to who had tampered with the records. Even that was omitted.

This is a very serious matter because the MR is being made to distort news in order to suit the interests of the ruling party. (*Interruptions*) That means, that the opposition will always suffer. They will distort the proceedings of the House. I am not discussing the proceedings because it is not within my power to discuss the proceedings of the other House. So I do not want to mention them. But what I say is that a Member belonging to any opposition group, if he expresses himself, well, he must