

श्री राजनारायण श्रीमन्, हमारा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है . . .

श्री नवल किशोर इस पर आपका क्या जवाब है ?

श्री सभापति मैंने चन्द्रशेखर जी को सवाल उठाने की इजाजत दे दी है लेकिन मैं नहीं चाहता अभी इस वक्त कालिग एजेंशन के मामले को रोक दिया जाय।

श्री नवल किशोर . मैंने इस बात पर केवल ध्यान आकर्षित किया। मैंने कब कहा रोक दीजिए।

(Interruptions)

श्री राजनारायण हमारा पाइन्ट यह है कि क्या आपने अभी सुझाव दिया ? मैं समझता हूँ, आपने कोई व्यवस्था नहीं दी, आपने यह एक साधु सुझाव दिया है। सदन के लोग साधु सुझाव से चले या न चले, लेकिन मैं आपसे जानकारी चाहूँगा कि क्या आपके साधु सुझाव से यह सन्निहित है कि चन्द्रशेखर जी जब इस सदन में प्रश्न करेंगे, उससे जो और संबंधित प्रश्न पैदा होंगे, क्या उनको पूछने के तमाम सम्मानित सदस्य हकदार हैं . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): That is everybody's right.

श्री राजनारायण अब यह तो हो नहीं सकता कि चन्द्रशेखर जी प्रश्न करें . . .

श्री सभापति देखिये इसका फिर देखा जाएगा।

श्री राजनारायण देखा जाएगा नहीं, बिलकुल सरल समदीय परम्परा है कि प्रश्न होंगे। देखिए, चन्द्रशेखर जी ने चिट्ठी लिख कर दी और जो चिट्ठी लिखी, किसी ने अपने निजी लडके लडकी के लिये नहीं

लिखी। उन्होंने सारे उलझे हुए सवाल पर प्रश्न किया। वह सारे देश का प्रश्न होगा। (अन्तर्बाधाएँ) मैं तो परेशान हो रहा हूँ। मैं चाहता हूँ, यहाँ ट्रेनिंग सेक्टर खोला जाए।

श्री सभापति अब आप बैठ जाइए।

संसद कार्य विभाग तथा नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ओम मेहता) : राजनारायण जी के लिए ट्रेनिंग सेक्टर खोला जाएगा।

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SCARCITY OF CONTROLLED CLOTH AND ITS RISING PRICES

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Foreign Trade to the scarcity of controlled cloth and its rising prices.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, production of controlled varieties of cloth had been falling steadily for some time and reached its lowest ebb in the quarter November 1970—January 1971 when the production of controlled cloth came down to 2.6 per cent of total production as against the obligation of 25 per cent. The mills had claimed increase in prices of controlled cloth which I did not think reasonable and I rejected this demand of theirs.

Soon after the formation of the new Government in March, 1971, measures were initiated to increase the production of controlled varieties. A meeting of the representatives was called by me on the 13th of April, 1971 and the imperative need of their fulfilling their obligations was impressed upon them. It was conveyed

to them in no uncertain terms that no increase in prices could be allowed until the report of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices was available. A high powered committee was set up to suggest measures to ensure that the mills produced 25 per cent in controlled varieties, an obligation that they had already accepted.

The representatives of the industry agreed to fulfil their obligation to the tune of 20 per cent and to produce 100 million sq. metres of controlled cloth in the quarter 1st June to 31st August, 1971.

The Mills producing medium, fine and superfine varieties and not producing controlled cloth have agreed to pay a contribution of 6 paise, 12 paise and 15 paise per sq. metre respectively on 20 per cent of their production during February-April, 1971 quarter (excluding exports and defence supplies).

Production has started from the 1st of June. According to reports 17 million sq. metres were produced in June. This was the first month and production is now gaining momentum. We had another meeting with ICMF on the 27th instant. In that meeting assurance was given by the ICMF representatives that the production would reach 66 million sq. metres by the end of July to enable the target of 100 million sq. metres to be reached by the end of August, 1971.

In view of the importance of adequate production of controlled varieties of cloth, I expect that in the 2nd quarter of September—November Mills will produce 25 per cent of their total production in the controlled categories as promised by them earlier. On the question of prices of controlled cloth, no price increase has been permitted since May, 1968.

In February this year, some reports appeared suggesting that prices higher than the stamped prices were being charged by dealers and retailers in some parts of the country. We took up the matter with the State Governments and requested them to tighten their system of enforcement so that any violation of the statutory price may be punished under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

However, we have asked the State Governments to take punitive action against dealers, retailers and wholesalers found guilty of overcharging and the need for more stringent enforcement is being brought to the notice of the State Governments again. It is also proposed to issue directions to the ICMF to instruct all mills to stop forthwith all clubbed sales of cloth.

In view of the increased availability of cloth, I hope that if the State Governments are vigilant and exercise powers vested with them under the Essential Commodities Act judicially, controlled cloth should be available to the weaker section of the community at the controlled prices. Hon. Members should be glad to know that as a result of this scheme closure of the uneconomic and weaker units has been averted.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am very sorry to say, Sir, the statement made by the Minister is totally inadequate and it does not go into the depth of the entire malaise in the textile mills. How is he glad to inform us that further closure of textile mills is being averted? I do not understand because, Sir, the malaise is not only on account of controlled cloth, but it is due to various reasons. The Minister before making the statement should have thought about it in great depth. Now, Sir, let me go through the problems of controlled cloth as such.

May I know, Sir, whether the Minister is aware that he gave a

[Shri A. G. Kulkarni,]

solemn assurance to this House that penalties would be imposed on the producers of cloth who have failed to produce controlled cloth, where the production target has come down from 25 per cent. to 2.5 per cent? May I know whether the Government has actually taken any penal action, because, Sir, what I see is it is just like a loving mother cajoling and threatening her erring child but ultimately giving him one or two more peras so that he misbehaves again. . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh): And no slaps

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Yes, Sir And giving no slaps. Now in reply to the question as to what is the scheme, Mr. Misra has been telling in the last one or two sessions that the scheme involved is for giving a subsidy of 50 naya paise which might be again raised to a hundred naya paise. God knows how he is going to be advised. Then, the erring mills are told, "Well, you take this 50 naya paise and produce new cloth, and forget whatever has been done in the past." May I know if that situation is true?

Sir, there is no use actually having palliative measures. I request the Minister to go into the entire problem for Heaven's sake. Whether you increase the prices or not is none of my business. My only point is that the consumer must not get controlled cloth at a higher price. That is my public stand and I stand by it. At the same time you should look into the entire malaise in the textile industry and try to remove it, and that can be done only through increased production of cotton and modernisation. But, Sir, these are their stock replies.

Sir, the Minister is aware that by giving this 50 naya paise the superfine variety has been affected But the previous premium collected from the supply of American cotton to the industry was mostly used for coarse

and medium varieties. May I know if that is a fact? If it is so, it is ultimately the decentralised sector which is affected. May I inform him that due to increase in premium the prices have risen in the decentralised sector from 10 to 20 paise? Actually the handloom and the powerloom sectors are finding it very difficult to market their supplies.

(Time Bell rings.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will do.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You have to give me one or two minutes more. You go on ringing the bell. Only five or six people are going to ask questions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How do you know that? A number of persons are raising their hands. All right. Take one more minute, but not more than one minute.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: No. I will take another 5—10 minutes. May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that American cotton attracted the increased premium which was mostly used by the coarse-medium cloth count mills. He says that there is a yarn pool scheme for the handloom sector. What is the content of that yarn pool scheme? How much percentage is given to the handloom and the powerloom sectors? It barely covers 10—20 per cent. of the requirement. The price rise is 1.68 paise. Mr. Misra must understand that by increasing the value of premium he has done the greatest harm to the handloom and the powerloom sector.

Lastly, I want to know whether he is aware that between Rs. 150 and Rs. 300 'on money' is being charged by the mill owners and they are perpetuating blackmarketing in the cotton textile industry. The Minister has suggested that it is for the State Governments to take action under the Essential Commodities Act. Whether it is for the State Government

or the Central Government, I as a representative of the consumers am mostly interested in the cloth being available to the consumers at the right price. So in regard to all these matters, will the Government have a rethinking, instead of helping the mill owners by giving them more incentives? You are agreeing to their demand of increasing the price of cloth by 50 paise. That is my charge. You should go into the depth of the problem so that you have an integrated approach to the whole malaise of the textile industry.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Sir, the objective of Mr. Kulkarni and my objective are the same, that is, making cloth available to the common man at a cheaper price. This is the objective that I have and this is the objective of Mr. Kulkarni also. And our efforts are also in the same direction. It is not correct to say that we have tried to help the big mills or the mills which have been producing fine and super fine cloth.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I have not said that.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: As a matter of fact, as I said earlier in my statement, in January the production of the controlled varieties of cloth had come down to 2.6 per cent as against their commitment of 25 per cent. Then we prevailed upon them and they agreed to produce 20 per cent. This 20 per cent is going to be achieved. So, compared to the production in the period November to January, this production will be almost 10 times.

So far as the big mills are concerned, we have levied a penalty in this sense that those mills which do not produce the controlled varieties of cloth, which is meant for the common people, will have to pay a contribution, as I mentioned earlier at the following rates: Mills which are producing Medium varieties will have to pay 6 paise per sq. metre on 20 per cent packing minus export of this category; mills which are producing Fine varieties will have to pay

12 paise per sq. metre on 20 per cent packing minus export of this category; and mills which are producing Super-fine varieties will have to pay 15 paise per sq. metre on 20 per cent packing minus export of this category. Therefore, it is not correct to say that anything has been done in any way to help the bigger or the stronger mills. Our whole effort has been to get more of the controlled varieties of cloth and that is why we would make it an obligation on them to earmark 20 per cent of their capacity in the first quarter and 25 per cent of their capacity in the second quarter for production of the controlled varieties of cloth. And I am glad that we are going to achieve this target by the end of July. By the 31st of July we will be producing 60 or 68 million sq. metres of the controlled varieties of cloth and by the end of August, it will be 100 million sq. metres.

As regards the point raised by Mr. Kulkarni about the difficulties of the decentralised sector or the powerloom sector, he has been raising this point a number of times in this House and we had a long discussion with him in my office two or three days back. I would like to say that the point that the subsidised production of controlled cloth would adversely affect the working of the handloom and the powerloom sector and that the decentralised sector was being asked to pay a higher premium on long staple cotton required for the manufacture of fine and superfine cloth, is not correct. A majority of the powerlooms sector in all States except U.P., produces higher medium, fine and superfine and blended (mixed) fabrics. The availability of controlled cloth of coarse and medium variety will not therefore, affect that sector. There is no controlled on the price of products of this sector. . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: This is wrong information.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: It is not wrong information. The production in the

[Shri L. N. Mishra.]
decentralised sector in fine and super-fine varieties . . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am talking of the course and medium varieties. You are unnecessarily side-tracking and clouding the main issue.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: There is no question of clouding the main issue I have already said that his objective and my objective are the same. I am only saying that it is not correct to say that the decentralised sector or the powerloom sector is going to be affected as a result of this penalty which we have decided to levy on mills producing fine and super-fine... (*Interruption*). You must allow me to go on. You have come to my office and we have discussed it at length. Now, you should allow me to go on.

So, there is no control on the price of the products of this sector which has also not been asked to continue to the fund required for financing the subsidy of controlled cloth. The higher incidence of levy of Rs. 200 per bale on long staple foreign cotton will not alter the prices of either the fine or the super-fine cloth materially. The powerloom products also enjoy lower excise duty. This is one more advantage to them. As regards the powerlooms in U.P. which produce coarse and medium cloth to some extent, the sector enjoys substantial advantages in excise duty and produce material which are of the different construction than the controlled varieties.

Having regard to the high price of cotton in consequential increase in the price of cotton yarn Government has provided under the Yarn Pool Scheme cotton yarn to handloom and powerloom sector at fair prices.

In order to enable the powerloom and handloom to diversify and produce cloth which is more remunerative adequate supplies of man-made fibre yarn are being allocated. It is my hope that the handloom and the powerloom sector will take advantage

of these measures to diversify and strengthen their economic viability.

I would request Mr. Kulkarni to take this point a little more seriously and help us in our endeavour so that we are in a position to supply cheaper cloth to the common man in our country.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: My question was about the American cotton. I did not ask about long-staple cotton. I asked whether it is a fact that the premium has increased on the American cotton, whether it is used for coarse and medium cloth.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Of course. For the mills which take the imported cotton the premium has been raised. And I have been saying... (*Interruption*) they have to pay some compensation to the loss incurred by those mills which are producing controlled varieties of cloth for the use of the common man. The payment will be made by those people who are not ready to produce controlled varieties of cloth and who go for superfine and fine varieties of cloth. They have to pay compensation to those mills which are producing controlled varieties of cloth.

SHRI S. R. VASAVADA (Gujarat): It has been recognised by everybody that to provide cheap cloth to the poor consumers in the country is the duty and responsibility of the Government. The Government has been trying to ask the manufacturers to produce controlled varieties of cloth and all efforts are made to see that controlled cloth is produced and is made available. I want to make a suggestion for the consideration of the Government. The Government should consider the feasibility of it. The Government is running today about 25 to 30 mills. Will it not be possible for the Government to ask these mills to produce large quantities of controlled cloth, to give them higher quotas, provide them with suitable cotton, and, if necessary, even to ask these mills to start retail shops for the

consumers so that the cloth reaches the consumer in a very fair manner? I am making this proposition for the Government to consider.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Mr. Vasavada is the chairman of the mills which are under the control of the Government, that is, of the National Textile Corporation. I have said in my statement earlier that we want to encourage the mills under the National Textile Corporation to produce more of controlled varieties of cloth, and Mr. Vasavada is free to do it. He is the chairman of the Corporation.

SHRI S. R. VASAVADA: What about starting retail shops by these mills?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Do you want your mills to run retail shops? If you want, you can run.

SHRI S. R. VASAVADA: The idea is this. The controlled cloth does not reach the consumer at the proper price. Will you kindly ask the Government mills to start their shops so that the controlled cloth is made available to the consumer at a very fair price?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: The Government has no mills of its own. Only the National Textile Corporation has some mills, that is, about 27, under Mr. Vasavada. If he wants to put forth that proposal, we shall not come in his way. I am glad that the National Textile Corporation mills want to open their units in the States. Perhaps they will have to get in touch with the State Governments in connection with retail sale.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: On a point of order. Mr. Vasavada's question has not been replied to. His question was about the physical control of all the controlled cloth produced in the country, and not only by the sick mills which are under his charge.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He answered it in a general way.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: He has not replied to that. The question is whether he is prepared to enforce physical control of all the controlled cloth produced in the country and get that sold by retail shops.

SHRI R. S. VASAVADA: That was not my question.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA (Rajasthan): The point about subsidy made to the makers of controlled cloth being collected from the spinners who supply yarn to the decentralised sector was well taken by Shri Kulkarni... (Interruptions). But it has not been adequately dealt with by the hon. Minister. I would like to ask him whether it is not a fact that contribution from mills which will be making fine and superfine cloth is estimated to be about Rs. 60 lakhs whereas the contribution from spinners as levy on imported cotton is as high as Rs 3.75 crores. Most of it will be borne by the spinning mills and thus by the decentralised sector. In such cases, would not the government think it advisable to increase the contribution of makers of fine and superfine cloth? They are in a position to pay a higher amount and if this is done that will relieve the decentralised sector part of the burden.

Secondly, the main reason for this state of affairs has been overall shortage of cotton and while we are nearing the end of one cotton season, the prospect for the next cotton season is none too bright. Therefore, as in the last year if only very little action, and that too belated action, is taken, we may enter into the same problem next year. Will the hon. Minister arrange the import of adequate quantity of cotton, say one million bales, so that there will be plenty of supply of cotton and there will be no shortage of cloth and there will be no black-marketing, either in controlled cloth or in other varieties. Sir, it is an article of mass consumption.

Lastly, the hon. Minister stated earlier that government has no inten-

[Shri M. K. Mohta.]

tion of increasing the price of controlled cloth, even if the finding of the Bureau of Costs and Prices might be that the cost of production of controlled cloth has increased. What is the meaning of this exercise which is futile? Why unnecessarily waste time and effort on the proceedings of the Bureau of Costs and Prices? Simply declare that you will not allow any increase in price of controlled cloth. What is the use of going ahead with the work of the Bureau of Costs and Prices? What is the rationale behind it?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I have only said that we shall not allow any increase till we receive the report of the Bureau of Costs and Prices. This is the rationale. The moment we get their report, we will consider it . . .

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: We understood the Minister to say that even if the Bureau recommends a price increase, you will not consider it.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I said in the Lok Sabha the other day that it is not obligatory on the part of the government to accept the recommendation of the Bureau of Costs and Prices and the Tariff Commission. I did not say that I will not accept their recommendation. I said that it is no obligatory on our part to accept whatever they say.

On the import of cotton, I would like to inform Shri Mohta that we have taken it up with the Ministry of Finance and we propose to import about ten lakh bales of cotton for the next year also because we feel that cotton production for the next year is not so good as we expected it to be.

About the contributions, I would like to inform him that under the new scheme which was finalised sometime in April we are going to get some amount to make up the losses. From disposal of 1.25 lakh bales of American cotton we will get about Rs. 3.75 crores. Then contribution

from Textile Commissioner's Controlled Cloth Compensatory Fund. It will be about Rs. 75 lakhs. Contribution from industry is about Rs. 60 lakhs. We will have about Rs. 6 crores at our disposal which we want to use for giving compensation to mills which make controlled cloth for the common people of this country.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: He has not replied to my question. I agree with his figures . . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: On a point of order. Shri Mohta and I put a specific question to the hon. Minister. He has not replied to it. He says that Rs. 3.75 crores are going to be collected from the supply of American cotton. And he also says that decentralised sector is not affected. We do not understand the logic of it. We are more concerned with the decentralised sector.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Let there be no confusion on this matter. Do Shri Kulkarni and Shri Mohta think that power-loom and centralised sector should not make this contribution? If they want to use imported American cotton and produce superfine and mercerised cloth, then they will have to pay. Or, let them not produce superfine and mercerised cloth. If they produce only controlled cloth, we will give them compensation.

डा० भाई महावीर (दिल्ली) : श्रीमन, पहली बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने इस बात की कोई जांच की है कि इस साल के प्रारम्भ से जो रिटेल मार्केट है उसमें अलग अलग किस्म के कपड़े की कीमत में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है। इसके बारे में आपके पास कोई जानकारी है? नम्बर दो, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जैसा कि वक्तव्य दिया गया है कि एसोसिएशन के साथ, जो काटन मिल फेडरेशन है, उसके साथ बातचीत हुई तो उनके साथ मंत्री महोदय ने क्या वाचीत की, क्या चेतावनी दी? इसके साथ साथ मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपको विदित

है कि इस समय जो कपडे की बिक्री की पद्धति है, मिले जिस हिसाब में कपडा देती है, उसमें दो, तीन बडे नुकस है। क्या आप यह जानते है कि पहला नुकस यह है कि वह कुछ अपनी पसन्द के लोगो को, अपने रिश्तेदारों को, जो उनके खास कृपा-पात्र हैं, उनको वह कपडा एलाट करते है और बाकी को नहीं करते। और क्या यह सच है कि जहा दूसरे लोगो को देने हैं, कंट्रोल क्लाय की अगर एक गांठ या दो गांठ किमी को दी तो उसके साथ वह ब्लैक के पैमें मागते है और इस तरह से जो दूसरे व्यापारी है, उन पर बोझा डाल कर एक जबरदस्ती का टैक्स वसूल करते है। क्या आप यह भी जानते है कि इस पद्धति में मिलो की तन्फ से यह भी किया जाता है कि कंट्रोल क्लाय की एक गांठ या दो गांठ दी तो साथ में दूसरे तरह के कपडे भी जबरदस्ती से खरीददारी करने के लिये मजबूर करते है, जिससे कि उसमें उनको नफा होता है, वह मिल कमा सके।

महोदय, इस सारे ढर्रे में जो आपका टैक्सटाइल कंट्रोलर का मुहकमा है, उसकी भी मिली-भगत रहती है, क्योंकि न इस तरह की कार्यवाही को रोकने के लिये कोई रेड्स होते है, छापा पड़ता है और न ही और कोई यत्न किया जाता है, क्योंकि उनको भी उसमें हिस्सा मिलता है। तो क्या यह आपकी जानकारी है।

महोदय, आखारी नुकस जो कंट्रोल क्लाय के वितरण की पद्धति में है, वह यह है कि जैसे कि 40 मीटर का एक थान बना तो केवल उसके ऊपर के हिस्से में कंट्रोल क्लाय की मुहर लगी होती है, तो जिन व्यापारियों ने ब्लैक में पैसा दे कर खरीदा है, वह समझते हैं कि घाटा पूरा करने का और कोई तरीका नहीं सिवाय इसके कि ऊपर का आधा मीटर फाड़ दें ताकि नीचे का कपडा खरीदने वाले को पता नहीं रहे कि वह कंट्रोल बैरायटी का है या अनकंट्रोल बैरायटी का है।

तो क्या सरकार इसका कोई प्रबन्ध करेगी कि जैसे कि कुछ कपडो में बारीक किनारे के ऊपर मिल के नाम की मुहर रहती है और वह हर मीटर पर रहती है, उसी तरह से कंट्रोल क्लाय के हर मीटर पर किनारे के ऊपर "कंट्रोल क्लाय" की मुहर लगे ताकि पूरे के पूरे थान में कहीं से कपडा बेचा जाय तो खरीददार को पता हो कि वह कंट्रोल क्लाय खरीद रहा है और उसकी कीमत वह सही दे ज्यादा कीमत न दे। और इस तही में, जहा यह आपको रोकने की जरूरत है, वहा आपका टेक्सटाइल कंट्रोल का जो महकमा है, बम्बई में, अहमदाबाद में, कानपुर में या दूसरी जगहों पर, वहा आप उन मिलों के बटवारे की पद्धति को ठीक से सुधारेंगे और उसमें जो भ्रष्टाचार है, उसको दूर करने के लिए क्या आप महकमे की भी सफाई करेंगे, उस भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने का यत्न करेंगे और किस प्रकार से करेंगे ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : जहा तक दाम निर्धारण का सवाल है, इसमें मैं उ के साथ हूँ और हम लोगो में दाम या कीमत का निर्धारण किया है, वितरण पर हम लोगो ने

डा० भाई महावीर : नहीं, नहीं। मैंने पूछा रिटेल प्राइस का क्या रेट होगा, कितनी वृद्धि होगी ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : जहा तक वितरण का प्रश्न है उस पर हमने कोई कंट्रोल नहीं किया, उस पर नियंत्रण नहीं रखा है। मिल वाले जो अपना एजेंट बहाल करते हैं, उस एजेंसी को अपने मित्र को, अपने रिश्तेदार को या अपने ही आदमी को दे देते हैं। हाँ सकता है, भाई महावीर जी ने जो कहा है सत्य हो, लेकिन उस पर हमारा अभी कोई अधिकार नहीं है कि किसको एजेंट बहाल करें या न करें। हम नहीं कह सकते है कि वह किसको

बहाल करें। वह अपने हित में बहाल करते हैं।

जहां तक कन्ट्रोल वेरायटी की बात है, उन्होंने बात उठाई स्टैम्प की। फ़स्ट प्लेट पर कीमत लिखी रहती है, भीतर नहीं लिखा रहता है। यह शिकायत हमारी पार्टी के मेम्बरो ने हमसे की है और उन्होंने सुझाव दिया है कि यह हर मीटर या थान के ऊपर रहना चाहिए। मेरा खयाल है कि यह अच्छा सुझाव है और हम टैक्सटाइल कमिशनर से बात करेंगे, जिससे हमारी भोली जनता ठगाने जाए और उनको मालूम होता रहे किस कपड़े का क्या दाम है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What about his other question?

डा० धीरू महावीर : जो भ्रष्टाचार वगैरह की शिकायतें आपके पास आई, इसके लिए आप क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : ठीक है, दो तीन बातें मैंने पहले कही। पहले शिकायत आई थी कि कपड़े की कीमत बहुत बढ़ गई थी, जनवरी फरवरी में।

डा० भाई महावीर प्रतिशत की बात बताए—कितने प्रतिशत बढ़ा?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What about his other question about the Textile Commissioner's office?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I will come to that, Sir. He has given some information on the alleged corruption prevailing in the Office of the Textile Commissioner and that is the information from him and I will try to see to it and I will have discussions with the various officers and the Textile Commissioner also and I will try to streamline the organisation. But I cannot give any assurance that everything will be all right.

[श्री एल० एन० मिश्र]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Papers to be laid on the Table.

डा० भाई महावीर : देखिए महोदय, पहला सवाल यह था कि कीमने कितनी बढ़ी। वह फिर छूट गया। इस साल के दौरान में कीमते कितनी प्रतिशत बढ़ी है?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : देखिए, सही तरीके से तो कीमत बढ़ी नहीं है। ऐसा हुआ है, जिन दुकानदारों को जब-जब मौका मिला, उन्होंने कीमत बढ़ा दी। हमने प्रान्तीय सरकार को लिखा कि वे हमको खबर दे कि किस तरह से कपड़े की कीमत बढ़ी है। उनके यहां से जो कुछ खबर आई है, उससे मालूम होता है कि कीमत बढ़ी नहीं है, लेकिन मुझे विश्वास नहीं होता है कीमत बढ़ी नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा यह गलत खबर है आपकी। मैं मानता हूँ, कपड़े की कीमत जनवरी और फरवरी के महीने में बढ़ गई थी और अप्रैल और मार्च में कीमत नीचे आई है। लेकिन मैं नहीं बता सकता, 10 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी या 15 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। वह सूचना मेरे पास नहीं है। चूंकि हमारा माध्यम प्रान्तीय सरकार है, जिनके यहां बाजार और मण्डी है, वहां से जो सूचना आई है, उसमें तो ऐसा है कि कीमत नहीं बढ़ी है। हमारा भी अपना व्यक्तिगत अनुभव है और हमने बाजार में देखा है कि कीमत बढ़ गई है।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, हमारा एक प्वाइन्ट आफ ऑर्डर है और वह यह है कि सरकार कहती है एक मर्नवा कि कपड़े की कीमतों की जानकारी के बारे में जो माध्यम और साधन है वह प्रान्तीय सरकारें हैं और ये सरकारें ये कहती हैं, प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने हमको यह कहा है, यह सूचना दी है कि कपड़े की कीमते नहीं बढ़ी हैं। ज्यादातर प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने कहा है कि कपड़े की कीमत नहीं बढ़ी है। इसके बाद मंत्री जी

कहते हैं कि मेरा निजी अनुभव है, मेरी अपनी जानकारी है कि कपड़ों की कीमत बढ़ गई है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनको निजी अनुभव कैसे हो गया और कोई इलहाम हुआ तो कैसे हो गया? यह जो अनगति मन्त्री के जवाब में है, कृपा करके उसे साफ करवाइये।

डा० भाई महावीर श्रीमन् स्टेट्स से वे पूछते हैं, तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली में तो कोई स्टेट नहीं है। दिल्ली के मार्केट में रिटेल प्राइस के बारे में केन्द्रीय सरकार कोई जानकारी प्राप्त करने के लिए क्या यत्न करती है और क्या यत्न किये हैं। यहाँ पर अगर आपको कीमत बढ़ाई हुई दिखलाई देती है, तो आप कह सकते हैं कि स्टेट्स की जो जानकारी है वह गलत है और आप अपनी जानकारी को अपने पाम रखिए। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली के सम्बन्ध में कोई जानकारी लेने का कोई प्रबन्ध किया है या बिल्कुल लाचारी है? क्या आपके पाम इस सम्बन्ध में कोई तरीका नहीं है?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : जहाँ तक दिल्ली का सवाल है, इसमें कोई लाचारी की बात नहीं है और न ही प्रान्तीय सरकार की बात है। हम सूचना ले सकते हैं और उनमें आग्रह कर सकते हैं।

श्री राजनारायण जी ने एक बात कही कि इलहाम आया कैसे? बात यह है कि श्री राजनारायण जी जनवरी और फरवरी में बहुत भ्रमण करते रहे और हम भी जनवरी फरवरी में घूमने रहे। हमारा निजी अनुभव है कि जब हम पाच और आठ हजार की मीटिंग में बोल रहे थे तो वहाँ पर लोगो ने शिकायत की कि जो धोती 10 रुपये की बिकती थी उसमें दाम 15 रुपये कर दिया गया है। मैं बाजार खुद गया और मैंने कीमते बढ़ाई देखा इस तरह से मेरा निजी अनुभव है और मैंने खुद जाकर बाजार में देखा। इसके बाद मैंने मीटिंग बुलाई और जो 2 परसेंट कंट्रोल

वैराइटी का प्रोटेक्शन था उसको उठाया और 20 परसेंट ले गये और 20 परसेंट ले जाने के बाद कीमते नीचे आई।

डा० भाई महावीर हमारे सवाल का जवाब नहीं आया। जहाँ स्टेट्स नहीं है, केन्द्रीय शासित प्रदेश है, वहाँ पर तो जानकारी के साधन होने चाहिये।

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : वहाँ परज जानकारी लेने के लिए कोई दिक्कत नहीं होनी चाहिए।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, it is understandable that the small handloom owners and weavers are demanding that they should be given relief and that they should not be charged extra and money should be collected from those who are prosperous in this particular industry that is to say, big mills and so on. But, Sir, the solution of the problem lies not in this kind of thing. The Government should try to nationalize some of the big textile mills in Ahmedabad, Bombay, Kanpur and other places. That is the way to get money from them and subsidise other smaller units. That should be the approach of the Government. Since we are now importing American cotton for manufacture, why should we not see at the same time that this is done in the public sector. That should be the approach. Sir, yesterday, Mr. Chavan said that we must take physical control of things in order to keep down the prices. I think one of the ways to take physical control of things—essential commodities—would be to control them at every point—production point and distribution point. Textile goods are of great necessity to our people. This is an article of common consumption. I don't see at all why some of the mills of the country, especially owned by big monopoly houses named in the Monopolies Enquiry Commission should not be nationalised now.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Sir, we have got about 27 mills in the public sector at the moment. Shri Bhupesh Gupta

[Shri L. N. Misra.]

has suggested that we should take over some of the running mills. That is a good suggestion he has made. But at the moment we have no such proposal.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, in the last twenty years I have been only making many good suggestions. But it takes the Government roughly ten to twelve years to accept them.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE WEST BENGAL EMPLOYEES' PAYMENT OF COMPULSORY GRATUITY ORDINANCE, 1971

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION

श्रम और पुनर्वासि मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री

(**SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA**): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(i) A copy of the West Bengal Employees' Payment of Compulsory Gratuity Ordinance, 1971 (No. 1 of 1971), promulgated by the Governor of West Bengal on the 3rd June, 1971, under sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of article 213 of the Constitution read with sub-clause (iii) of clause (c) of the President's Proclamation (G.S.R. No. 984), dated the 29th June, 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-757/71].

(ii) A statement giving reasons for not laying simultaneously Hindi version of the above Ordinance. [Placed in Library. See LT-758/71].

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COAL BOARD, CALCUTTA FOR 1969-70

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL & MINES

इस्पात और तान मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री

(**SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN**): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report of the Coal Board, Calcutta, for the year 1969-70. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-759/71].

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA FOR 1969-70 AND RELEASED PAPERS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI

कृषि मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री

JAGANNATH PAHADIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 35 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report and Accounts of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1969-70, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-760/71].

**REFERENCE TO ALLEGED CON-
TRADICTION BETWEEN THE
STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER
OF STEEL AND MINES IN RAJYA
SABHA AND THE STATEMENT OF
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES
IN LOK SABHA—Contd.**

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Chandra Shekhar is a valient fighter. He will know how to put up his case and then we will hear the reply from the Minister again truthfully and objectively.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not necessary to read the whole letter. He can point out the discrepancies.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: As far as letters are concerned, we have been told that you are in the possession of two letters, one written by Mr. Chandra Shekhar in regard to a matter that arose in the House and another, we have been just now told, written by the Minister concerned, also relating to the same subject which arose in the course of the discussion in the House. These letters are not private correspondence, so to say. I think Mr. Chandra Shekhar's letters have been talked about. Both the letters should be circulated to the Members.