

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know since how many years these schools were going on in tents and whether the Government will take up the issue? It is a shameful affair that our children should study in tents in rain, in sun and in winter. The question is whether the Government will consider the question of postponing the construction of posh hotels like the Akbar Hotel and utilise the amount allotted for constructing schools for the children?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: I agree that it is a shameful thing. But when you have no resources you have to put up with many shameful things. But, as I have read the figures, by the end of 1966-67, only 11 buildings will be left to be covered by construction. That means only 12 schools will be left in tents by the end of 1966-67. We will try and see that this phased programme is finished at the end of 1968, at the latest.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Not phased programme, but crash programme.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know since when these schools are run in tents?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: I have not got the date . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: For a long time.

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: ... but the hon. Member knows that the population increased so suddenly in Delhi.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: The funds at the disposal of the Education Ministry being limited, there are two ways in which they can do the thing. By having a limited number of schools housed in palatial buildings you will have fewer schools and fewer children studying in schools. You can have modest buildings . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Out of these two ways which way does the Government prefer? You may have modest buildings at a very large number of places where a very large number of students can read. Which of these two things does the Government of India prefer? Students like Rajendra Prasad, Bidhan Chandra Roy and Asutosh Mukerjee read in institutions which had thatched roofs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the meantime, Mr. Sinha, the Question Hour is over.

12 NOON

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

कलकत्ता में पटसन के कारखानों का आंशिक रूप से बन्द किया जाना

1. श्री आर० पी० खेतान: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इंडियन जूट मिल्स एसोसियेशन ने फैसला किया है कि कलकत्ता में पटसन के कारखाने महीने में एक सप्ताह के लिए बन्द रहा करेंगे; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कारखानों को बन्द होने से रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

PARTIAL CLOSURE OF JUTE MILLS IN CALCUTTA

1. SHRI R. P. KHETAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Indian Jute Mills Association have decided that the Jute Mills in Calcutta would remain closed for one week during a month; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government to avert the closure of the Mills?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) The Indian Jute Mills Association propose to have a block closure of all the jute mills for a week in view of the acute shortage of jute fibre. As a result of the block closure, the industry expects that the consumption of raw jute which is in short supply will be reduced by 1-5 lakh bales. The industry has been concerned that due to extreme shortage of raw jute, the prices of raw jute have shot up to a very high level, that is, Rs. 174-15 per quintal (Rs. 65 per maund), whereas the prices of jute goods have not risen proportionately. This is resulting in losses to the industry.

[] English translation.