

that the hon. Railway Minister wants to be on the right side of Members of Parliament at the cost of his colleague in the Finance Ministry? Since he is saying this thing, has he made any request to the Minister of Finance . . .

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Why should he?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: or to the Prime Minister that in view of the fact that he feels that Members of Parliament should be given the highest facilities, they should be given to them? He said it is for them to sanction, for the other Departments. I want to know whether he has prepared any memorandum making out a case or whether he is just saying this in order to be pleasant to us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, it is for the Parliament to decide that.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I want to return to the original question. Let us not decide about Members of Parliament here. That is a different proposition altogether. May I know whether the hon. Minister will consider the desirability of impressing upon the labour union leaders to discontinue this practice in view of the sentiments expressed in the House?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: Surely.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister to the statement made by him in the last session of Parliament that it was the policy of the Railway Board not to encourage free passes and that steps would be taken to see that such free passes are discontinued and may I know what steps have since been taken to stop this practice of issuing free first class or air-conditioned class passes?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: This is a question of only two or three people that have been mentioned—labour leaders. We have enough trouble with the em-

ployees and their leaders and on the question of passes we do not want to get into any other trouble. But so far as the request made by my hon. friend there is concerned, that is, whether I should not persuade them that, in view of the fact that these passes or facilities are not enjoyed by others, they should also give it up, certainly I undertake to do that, but barring that I do not want to buy fresh troubles.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He seems to be now interested in persuasion in order to make them give it up, but will they themselves set the example by not making use of air conditioned passes or drawing allowance for air-conditioned class?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think now I will proceed to the next question.

*66. [The questioner (Shri D. Thengari) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 408-409 infra]

SETTING UP OF NEW SPINNING MILLS IN U.P.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA† SHRI
NEKI RAM: i SHRI LILA DHAR
BAROOAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have asked Government of India for the establishment of six spinning mills in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the necessary licences have been issued;

(c) the location of the mills; and

(d) capacity of each of the six mills?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Arjun Arora.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). Two applications have been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for industrial licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up two spinning mills of 25,000 spindles each in the public sector in Bundelkhand and eastern regions of the State. These are under consideration as a part of the scheme for setting up 50 spinning mills in the public and cooperative sectors during the 4th and 5th Plan periods. These applications are under consideration.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know when these applications were received from U.P. and how long have they been under consideration?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: They were received two and a half months back. Apart from that this will take a long time to decide because the entire Fourth Five Year Plan is still under formulation.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government is aware of the fact that U.P. is extremely short of spinning mills and the weavers in U.P. are only partially employed because they do not get yarn and in view of this will he expedite the issue of the licences?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As I said it was to help areas like U.P. and other backward regions of the country that this scheme of establishing 50 spinning mills in the co-operative and public sectors was contemplated by the Government. This involves a huge amount of investment and foreign exchange and unless and until the Fourth Five Year Plan is finalised it is not possible for me to issue licences before that. After the allocations are finalised by the Planning Commission and the Government and approved by the hon. House, certainly I will go ahead.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government is aware of the fact that some spinning mills of U.P. are out of date and closed since long and will he consider the advisability of issuing new licences for spinning mills in U.P. in lieu of that installed capacity which has remained idle for a number of years?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: We shall issue the licences forthwith as soon as applications come from those places.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know why he does not consider these two applications as part of replacement of the idle capacity?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The policy is this. In Agra for instance if a mill has gone out of production due to old machinery we will license a unit in Agra in order to provide alternative employment to the labour there. It is not possible to shift it to other areas. This is a scheme for the backward regions of the country where entrepreneurs from the private sector are not attracted and where the Government, either the State Governments or the Central Government, has taken over the duty of helping such backward regions.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, if it is the policy of the Government to start new spinning mills in the co-operative sector, why these two mills are going to be started in the public sector and not in the cooperative sector? Is it not possible to have them in the co-operative sector in U.P.?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: U.P. is trying for co-operatives, but the cooperative movement, as in the State from which the hon. Member comes, is not so strong in Uttar Pradesh and in many other parts of the country. Therefore, we cannot deny them the privilege of development only because of co-operatisation.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी
 चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान यह बतलाएंगे कि
 भारतवर्ष में कौन कौन से ऐसे प्रान्त हैं
 जहाँ पर रूई सरप्लस है और जितनी रूई
 वहाँ पैदा होती है उसके अनुसार उतने
 स्पिन्डल्स वहाँ नहीं हैं और उनको रूई
 एक्सपोर्ट करनी पड़ती है ? अगर वे
 सरप्लस है तो क्या उनको प्राथमिकता दी
 जायगी या जिनके वहाँ रूई पैदा नहीं होती
 है वहाँ पर स्पिन्डल्स को प्राथमिकता दी
 जायगी ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This does not concern that at all, as far as this particular question is concerned. We received two applications from U.P. for setting up textile mills, to meet the requirements of backward regions, which, as I said, are under consideration. Now, regarding the dispersal of the textile industry, it has been our policy for the last ten years, since the Second and Third Five Year Plans, that we do take into account the production of cotton, the backwardness of the region and, therefore, as the House is aware, the allocations of spindles in the last Plan were preponderantly in favour of those States where the cotton textile spindlage was less.

CLAIM FOR INDIAN SHIPS AND CARGOES FROM PAKISTAN

*68. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether Government have preferred any claim with the Government of Pakistan for the seizure of Indian ships and India-bound cargo by Pakistan during the recent Indo-Pakistan conflict?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): The Government of India had proposed to the Government of Pakistan on 25-11-1965 that both the Governments should bring normalcy to maritime trade of

import and export between the two countries. As a first step in this regard, the following suggestions were made to the Government of Pakistan by us: —

(a) exchange on reciprocal basis ad hoc cargoes such as USAID cargoes detained by India and 'by Pakistan, since the start of hostilities.

(b) exchange ocean-going ships, sailing vessels and inland water crafts on a tonnage for tonnage basis.

The Government of Pakistan have recently agreed to release USAID cargoes detained by them. As regards return of non-aid India-bound cargoes, ships, sailing vessels, etc. these issues are likely to figure in the proposed forthcoming ministerial level meeting between the two Governments following the Tashkent agreement.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know what is the quantum of cargo that has been involved in this affair both ways and how many ships are involved.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Well, Sir, the total is still not complete and I would not like to be quoted, because very soon we will be going to Pakistan, but I can assure the hon. Member that all the facts that are coming to us from different parts of the country are being properly collected.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Large stocks of newsprint have been impounded by the Pakistan authorities. Has any attempt been made by the Pakistan authorities to return the newsprint to India?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is what I am saying. I will not be able to give the details of the cargo. They have released some USAID cargo and we have also released some cargo. So, the movement towards the release and freeing of the detained cargo has begun.