

replying in an evasive way, just to shut me out. I would like the Minister to give a specific reply to it.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: The hon. Member's question was bracketed with bullion and ornaments. The hon. Member mentioned something about the extent of evasion and I said: I take the information from the hon. Member because I was not aware of it. If I knew the persons who were evading, they would no longer evade.

EXPORT OF BANANAS

*429. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of INTER-

NATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state the names of States in India from which bananas' were exported during 1961-62, 1962-63 and upto October 1963?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): Statewise statistics of export of bananas are not available, but exports are largely from Maharashtra and Gujarat States. However, a country-wise statement showing exports of bananas in 1961, 1962 and 1963 (Jan.—Sept.) is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

	Qty. Metric Tonnes Value—000 Rs.					
	1961		1962		1963 (Jan-Sept.)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Bahrein	1263	282	683	139	1203	258
Kuwait	4777	1099	3315	885	3970	1050
Trucial Oman	580	135	617	153	761	230
Pakistan West	4040	1119	3788	636	5350	1741
Kenya	216	53
Saudi Arabia	322	97	329	100	108	24
Small value transactions.	336	91	309	25	117	45
TOTAL	11318	2821	9157	2021	11509	3348

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: The statement shows that 11,509 tonnes were exported. May I know from what particular States they were exported and in what quantity?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is exactly what I answered. Most of them were from Maharashtra, some from Madras, some from Gujarat and some from the Calcutta and Orissa regions.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: A month or so back bananas were sent to Italy. May I know, Sir, if the bananas reached Italy in good condition and if not, what are the reasons?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: They reached in very good condition and we are already finalising a contract for the sale of 10,000 tonnes of bananas to Italy.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, what quantity of bananas were sent to Russia recently and if they reached in good condition?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: They are always supposed to reach in good condition. As a matter of fact, I had information from the Ministry of Foreign Trade in the Soviet Union that out of the thousand tonnes which

reached them, 700 tonnes were mopped up in less than an hour and another 300 tonnes, which were not of the first class variety—it was slightly damaged in transit or whatever it is—were also consumed very promptly. They are placing orders for further quantities.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: My information is that three-fourths of the bananas that were sent to Italy were spoiled on the way.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: May I know the policy of the Government regarding local consumption and the export of bananas?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: We are the third largest producers of bananas in the world. We produce 2.1 million tonnes. Exports are ranging from 25,000 tonnes to 50,000 tonnes. There is no use worrying, every time we start exporting, about what is likely to happen. As a matter of fact, that is such a tremendous wastage and the potentialities for the growing of bananas in this country are so enormous that we should export as much as we can.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know, Sir, whether co-operative societies are exporting bananas?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, Sir, We have divided the country into three zones. For the eastern zone a corporation called the Plantation Corporation of India is being established in Orissa—Orissa, Bihar, Bengal and Assam, four States, collaborating for banana and fruit development and export. For Maharashtra and Gujarat, we have two apex co-operative societies, functioning jointly together. The third one is the South India Banana and Fruit Development Corporation. Madras, Andhra, Kerala and Mysore collaborating together. These two Corporations in the public sector and one co-operative sector will collaborate with private as well as co-operative producers of bananas and fruits and will launch a massive campaign for export.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know if recently a Banana Mission was sent abroad and, if they have returned, what report they have given of the prospects of building up a big export trade in bananas.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The delegation was highly successful. They visited Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Belgium, Germany, the U.K., France, Switzerland and Italy. They procured on the spot orders—13,000 tonnes for Italy, 6,000 tonnes for Iraq and 5,000 tonnes for Iran. Their report shows that our bananas are very popular and if properly developed and scientifically exported, there to a tremendous market. As a matter of fact, the world trade in bananas is Rs. 240 crores.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: May I know from the hon. Minister what is the wastage of bananas? He said in his supplementary that there is considerable wastage of bananas in the country.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As far as wastage is concerned, it is not the concern of this question particularly, nor are we looking after bananas in a Central way. Like any other fruit or vegetable, wastage is inescapable. What is wanted is scientific development of the right quality of bananas both for internal and external consumption.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, what particular variety of bananas was exported, whether from the South, Maharashtra or Gujarat, and whether they were liked or not by the people outside?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: All varieties all are popular.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I would only like to ask the Minister whether this export trade in bananas is going to have an adverse effect on the price of bananas here, which is the poor man's food.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH; No, Sir, not at all. On the contrary, the poor grower and the cultivator and everybody else will get better paid as a result of these efforts. We have totally lacked quality consciousness in all production spheres of banana because no special attention is paid. They are allowed to grow naturally. No quality catering is done and the proper type of fertiliser is not used. The price question will not, as I said, be a matter of worry at all.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: It is not an answer to my question. Will the price of bananas go up here because of these large exports? That is what I am trying to get at.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Mr. Tariq. We are still on the bananas.

شہری اے - ایم - طارق : میں وزیر صاحب سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا یہ درست ہے کہ کہلا ہندوستان کے لوگوں کی خوراک کا ایک حصہ ہے ؟ ہاں چلتا اس کو خوراک سمجھ کر کھاتی ہے ؟ کیا یہ بھی درست ہے کہ پچھلے چند سالوں میں کہلے کی قیمت ۳ آنے درجن سے تیسرے (۳) روپیہ تک چلی گئی ؟ اگر یہ درست ہے تو بڑے ہوئے داسوں کو روکنے کے لئے سرکار کیا کرنے جا رہی ہے ؟

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मैं वजीर साहिब से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह दुस्त है कि केला हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों की खुराक का एक हिस्सा है और ग्राम जनता इस को खुराक समझ कर खाती है ?

† [] Hindi transliteration.

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क्या यह भी दुस्त है कि पिछले चन्द सालों में केले की कीमत ३ आने दर्जन से डेढ़ रुपया तक चली गई ? अगर यह दुस्त है तो बड़े हुए दामों को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या करने जा रही है ?]

श्री मनुभाई शाह : इसका एक्सपोर्ट से कोई मतलब नहीं है । एक्सपोर्ट तो हमारे प्रोडक्शन का दो परसेन्ट भी नहीं हो रहा है । २१ लाख टन केला जो तोड़ा जाता है वह हमारा प्रोडक्शन है । इतनी बड़ी कन्ट्री में जो केला तोड़ा नहीं जाता है वह करीब १० या २० लाख टन है । हमारा जो केले का एक्सपोर्ट है वह करीब ३५ हजार टन है और दोनों का इससे कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है । ओअर को अच्छे दाम मिलने चाहिये लेकिन वह नहीं मिलते हैं । हमारी कोशिश यह है कि ओअर को फेयर दाम मिलें ताकि वह ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन कर सके ।

KONCH BELI AND CHANDNI DAMS in HIMACHAL PRADESH

*430. SHRI SHIVA NAND RAMAUL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether the Konch Beli Dam Project and Chandni Dam Project in Himachal Pradesh have since been dropped?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : At an inter-State meeting held on 7-11-1963 to discuss the Yamuna Development Schemes, it was agreed *inter alia* to drop the Konch Beli Dam (Koch Dam) Project. As regards Chandni Dam, it was agreed that the Himachal Pradesh Government will carry out investigations at other sites and prepare a project report for a dam on river Giri above its confluence with Jala], and if necessary, another dam on its tributary Jalal.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know the reasons for dropping the Konch Beli Dam Project?