Tea-Estate Owners in Kerala

***1137. Shri Maniyangadan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum setting out the grievances of owners of small tea estates in Kerala has been received by Government;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to redress the grievances mentioned in the said memorandum, and

(c) if so, what?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main grievance related to the fixation of crop basis of the estates and the issue of export quotas. The Tea Board has since devised a method for the expeditious fixation of crop basis and issue of export quotas.

Shri Maniyangadan: May I know whether the applications of small holders for registration had been allowed?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the exact information. The information at my disposal is that the basis for crop estimation has been completed and the export quotas have been issued.

गन्ने की खोई से अखबारी कागज का तैयार किया जाना

*११३८. { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री राम शंकर लाल :
श्रीमती इला पाल चौधरी :
डा० राम सुभग सिंह : }

क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री २१ दिसम्बर, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १४७९ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत मे गन्ने की खोई से अखबारी कागज तैयार करने के बारे मे जर्मनी व इटली के विशेषज्ञ दलों ने क्या इस बीच अपने विस्तृत प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिये है ;

(ख) क्या उन प्रतिवेदनों में की गई सिफारिशो की एक स्थूल रूपरेखा सभा पटल पर रखी जायेगी ; और

(ग) उन सिफारिशो पर क्या निर्णय किये गये हैं तथा उन्हे कार्यान्वित करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) : (क) से (ग). हालांकि इटली के विशेषज्ञो से अभी रिपोर्ट नही मिली है ; फिर भी, जैसा कि मैने पहले बताया था जर्मन फर्म ने शंकर नगर मे तीस हजार टन अखबारी कागज हर साल तैयार करने के लिये "ए-जैड" प्रोसेस अपनाने की सिफारिश की है जिसका पेटेन्ट उसके पास है । यह अखबारी कागज वहा की चीनी कारखाने से मिलने वाले गन्ने के बगासे से बनाया जायेगा । इस योजना की कामयाबी मशीने और सामान लेने के लिये मुनासिब शर्तों पर फारेन एक्सचेन्ज मिलने पर निर्भर है, जिसके लिये अभी बातचीत चल रही है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि लगभग एक वर्ष बीत जाने पर भी इटली के विशेषज्ञो ने अभी तक अपनी रिपोर्ट नही दी है । मै यह जानना चाहता हू कि इस काम मे क्या अडचने पड़ी है, जिनकी वजह से अभी तक रिपोर्ट नही दी जा सकी है ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वे लोग कुछ तजुर्बे करना चाहते थे, लेकिन आजकल हम तो जर्मन ए- जैड प्रासेस पर ही चल रहे है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : पिछले प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया गया है कि जर्मन विशेषज्ञो ने भारत के बारह स्थानो का भ्रमण किया था । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन स्थानो मे से शंकर नगर को ही क्यो छांटा गया है और स्थानो के बारे में भी विचार किया जा रहा है ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मेरे कलीग ने बताया है कि बारह जगहो मे से सब जगहों

की पूरी तरह से जांच-पड़ताल की गई है और क्योंकि धाकर नगर में हिन्दुस्तान की सब से बड़ी गवर्नमेंट की शूगर फैक्टरी है और वहां पर जितनी चाहे बगास मिल सकती है, इसलिये उस जगह को पसन्द किया गया है ।

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the Government is in a position to indicate the cost of production of newsprint from bagasse and also from wood pulp?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will be too early to judge as to what would be the cost of production. It is a new invention which came out only last year. By and large, *prima facie*, one can say that it is easier to process bagasse than bamboo or other woods and raw materials.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: What would be the minimum capacity of an economic unit and how much bagasse would be required for such a unit?

Shri Manubhai Shah: 100 tons can be said to be an economic unit. 1 : 2.4 is the ratio. About 72,000 and odd tons of dry bagasse would be required for 30,000 tons of newsprint.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: These negotiations with the German experts have been going on for quite some time now. When is it likely to conclude?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I have already indicated in the latter part of my answer, much depends upon the foreign exchange and the credit payment terms we get. Actually speaking, we are all satisfied on the technical side, location of the site and the resources of raw materials. It is really credit and financial sides that have to be looked into.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether it will be completed during the Second Plan period?

Shri Manubhai Shah: We hope so.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know whether the Government's attention was drawn, to the fact that in Eastern U.P. and North Bihar bagasse is available in abundance, before deciding on the location of the factory.

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is very well known.

Minimum Wages Act

*1142. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to state the States in which the provisions of Minimum Wages Act are not yet implemented with regard to Agricultural Labour?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Madras and Kerala.

Shri B. S. Murthy: How many villages have been brought under this Act in Andhra?

Shri Abid Ali: Complete information has been given in the report which is available in the library. It is a printed document

Shri B. S. Murthy: The report is as old as two years.

Shri Abid Ali: Since then, not much has been done.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that in most of the villages even in Andhra Pradesh and Madras—not to speak of other States—this Act has not been applied to agricultural labour?

Shri Abid Ali: The areas in the States where the Act has to be made applicable had been mentioned in that report. What is not mentioned is not there.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the contention of the hon. Member that even where it is on paper, it has not been extended in practice?

Shri Ranga: My point is this. We have given certain time to the State Governments within which they should extend the provisions of this Act to agricultural labour all over the State. There have been many extensions. In spite of all that, even today, in most of the villages, it has not been extended to agricultural labour