

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have not studied that point particularly.

**OILSEEDS ETC.**

\*310. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the sharp fall in the export of oil and oilseeds in 1953-54 as compared to 1952-53; and

(b) the measures that have been adopted to redeem the lost trade?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The fall in the exports of oils during 1953-54 was due to high internal prices, lack of overseas demand at these prices in some cases, and restrictions imposed by Government on exports in other cases on account of shortage of supplies in the country. In regard to oilseeds, exports of the important oilseeds are prohibited in order to promote exports of oils wherever possible.

(b) The export duties on linseed oil, rape and mustard oils, cottonseed oil, kardi and niger-seed oils have accordingly been abolished with effect from the 12th May 1954. From the same date, the export duty on castor oil has been reduced from Rs. 300/- to Rs. 200/- per ton.

**Shri Kelappan:** What about the duty on castor oil?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I said that it was reduced from Rs. 300 to Rs. 200 per ton, from 12th May 1954.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** In the list of oils on which export duty has been reduced or abolished, the hon. Minister has not included groundnut oil. May I know whether Government are aware that there is a large exportable surplus in places like Andhra and Telengana, but the export permit is quite inadequate?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The permit that has been given, i.e.,

fifteen per cent. of the quota for established exporters has not been taken up in full.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** May I know whether there has been a considerable appreciation in the exports, after the reduction of these export duties?

**Shri Karmarkar:** It is yet too early to assess the result of the reduction.

**TARIFF COMMISSION'S REPORT ON TYRES AND TUBES**

\*311. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry conducted by the Tariff Commission into the prices of tyres and tubes has since been completed; and

(b) if so, whether the Tariff Commission have submitted their Report?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). The Tariff Commission enquiry into the prices charged by the tyre companies has not yet been concluded.

**Shri Bansal:** May I know when the case of this industry was referred to the Tariff Commission?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I think some time early last year.

**Shri Bansal:** Are there any similar cases in which the Tariff Commission have taken such a long time in submitting their reports to Government? If so, are Government satisfied with the working of the Tariff Commission?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Government have no reason to be dissatisfied with the work of the Tariff Commission?

**LOAN TO TATA IRON AND STEEL CO.**

\*313. **Shri Bogawat:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether an interest-free loan of rupees ten crores has been given.

by Government to Tata Iron and Steel Company for modernisation and expansion of their works;

(b) if so, the names of the works to be expanded; and

(c) the reasons for not charging interest on such a large loan?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Government have agreed to give a loan of Rs. 10 crores to the Tata Iron & Steel Company which will be free of interest till 1st July, 1958, or such later date as may be mutually agreed upon, to enable the Company to complete their expansion and modernisation programme the total estimated cost of which is expected to be about Rs. 43 crores.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 19.]

(c) The intention is not to charge interest for the period of construction with a view to help in the expansion and modernisation of the plant.

**Shri Bogawat:** May I know the various advantages the country would gain on account of not charging the interest?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The question of not charging the interest has a long history behind it. I would like to say that when we took up this matter with the Tata Iron and Steel Company in regard to modernisation of their plant, the proposal was put forward by them that their reasons were not adequate for them to embark upon a modernisation scheme; and if they did not do so their production of 7,50,000 tons would drop below this figure. We should increase the retention price paid to them so as to give them a cushion which they will use for purposes of funding and utilisation in the modernisation of the plant. Government examined this proposal and found that it would not be appropriate to raise the consumer price, and give the difference *gratis* to the company. Government, therefore, decided on a scheme of raising the

selling price, and pumping in the difference between the retention price and the selling price into the equalisation fund. The amounts that accrue in the equalisation fund were intended to be used for purposes of helping the industry to develop. It is but natural that when any scheme of expansion or modernisation or even construction is undertaken, the moneys that are ploughed in do not earn any interest or any return during the course of construction and therefore, Government felt that if they would encourage these people to go in for expansion, it would result not merely in their keeping up their production level, but also in augmenting their production to the extent of 1,81,000 tons, and so Government should give a help to this industry, by means of an interest-free loan to the extent of 10 crores.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Did Government take an overall picture of the situation, especially in view of the managing agents' capacity to take from Volkarts fifty-one per cent. of their shares, and also to float another concern by which they would run German tanks and German automobiles?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Government do take an overall picture of the situation, and I might assure my hon. friend that Government are quite competent to do so.

**Shri Matthen:** How does the retention price of steel in India compare with the price of foreign steel of similar quality imported into India?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Even at the moment, we have a price advantage. Even at present, the selling price, as I said earlier, affords a cushion from out of which we are pumping in money to the equalisation fund. We have a definite price advantage.

**Shri Matthen:** I wanted to know the rate.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** May I know whether Government have insisted it as a condition of giving the loan, that

some of their representatives will be taken on the board of management or the board of directors?

**Shri T. T. Krishnaamachari:** Yes, we have a government director on the board, or we should soon have.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the company has given any indication of the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed, and after which date Government will start charging interest?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Normally it is understood that the modernisation programme would have been completed before the middle of 1958.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government expect the modernisation programme to result in economy, and if so, what is the reason for not tapping some of the economy which will result by way of interest?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I could not catch the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The proposal seems to be that if there is any possibility of economy, why not utilise the results of the economy for charging interest instead of limiting the period for interest.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am afraid it is far too complicated for my understanding.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### MYSORE GOVERNMENT HOUSING SCHEME

\*314. **Shri Shivnanjappa:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Mysore have submitted a Housing Scheme for the construction of about 2500 houses in the urban areas of the State for housing the low income Government and Municipal employees, for the consideration of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the estimated cost of implementing it?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating briefly the salient features of the scheme is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 29.]

(c) Rs. 1 crore approximately.

**Shri Shivnanjappa:** May I know what action has been taken by the Centre to implement this scheme?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It has not yet been sanctioned; so the question of implementation does not arise.

**Shri Shivnanjappa:** May I know to what extent, and in what form, the Centre will finance the scheme?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The assistance that has been asked for is in the form of a loan repayable at the end of 25 years. This is the salient feature of the scheme. The Central Government are likely to finance it by advancing a loan, though it may not be to the full extent.

#### ART SILK WEAVING INDUSTRY

\*316. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the virtual collapse of the art silk weaving industry in the country; and

(b) whether Government are taking any steps to assist it?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) Government are not aware of any serious set-back to the Art Silk Weaving Industry in the country at present.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if any representation has not been received from the manufacturers at

Amritsar with regard to the fact that they are in trouble?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I cannot recall any such complaint made.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if representations have not been received from the manufacturers at Surat that there is a collapse of this industry?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The question of difficulties that the Art Silk Industry faces is inextricably connected with the levy of excise duty that was sanctioned by this House during the Budget Session. The House is well aware that the excise duty was reduced considerably when the Finance Bill was finally passed. There were a lot of representations during that time and there were also threats of closure, but after that period I have received no complaint of any serious disability that the industry is suffering from. It is true that while imports are being regulated so as to fit in with the absorption of locally-made Art Silk yarn, there is always some complaint that the imports are not adequate. But Government strive their best to see that the claims of all concerned are satisfied, and we take very quick action when we find that there is any shortage in production or shortage in supplies. But barring this, I have not received any major complaint.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what is the total value (in rupees) of the products of this Art Silk Industry in India?

**Shri Karmarkar:** During 1954 (January to June) the total production has been to the tune of 89.36 million yards as against 177.56 million yards and 108.8 million yards for the previous two years. The production has been fairly good.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** How many workers are concerned in this industry?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I require notice.

#### URANIUM DEPOSITS

**\*318. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether geologists have examined the crusts of white stone quarry near Chota Udaipur (Baroda); and

(b) whether the preliminary examination has disclosed the presence of Uranium in these crusts?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some minor indications of uranium and thorium ores have been found in certain rock formations of the Chota Udaipur area.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether these have been examined in our national laboratories and it has been ascertained whether these can be exploited for some purpose?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Anything that is found in this way is carefully examined invariably. If it has not been examined, we will not be able to say that it has been found. As to what use it should be put, it is, first of all, a question of the quantity of ores available. The mere fact of finding ores is not enough. It is well known as to what use uranium and thorium ores can be put.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know that whether any steps are being taken in the laboratories or elsewhere to find out actually, first of all what quantities are there, and whether they can be utilised?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** The uranium and thorium contents of the Chota Udaipur occurrences are not likely to

be high. The future prospects of uranium are problematical and investigations are being continued by the Raw Materials Division of the Department of Atomic Energy.

#### CORRUPTION CASES

\*319. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1176, asked on the 22nd March, 1954 and state:

(a) the final action taken in respect of the 758 cases of corruption detected during the years 1950 to 1953; and

(b) the number of Gazetted Officers against whom such action was taken?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21]

**Shri Dabhi:** In the statement details are given of the number of cases of departmental irregularities such as receiving illegal gratification etc. in which disciplinary action was taken. May I know whether Government consider that receiving illegal gratification is merely a departmental irregularity, and why criminal action was not taken?

**Shri Karmarkar:** A particular act may invite both departmental action as well as criminal prosecution. Whether criminal action is taken or not depends upon the sustainability of the action. Certainly, in some cases criminal action also has been taken. I have not got the figures with me, but it is a fact that action has been taken in criminal courts and some other matters are pending investigation.

**Shri Dabhi:** Again, in the statement there is another column about the number of cases in which investigations were completed and final blacklisting action was taken. May I know what is meant by 'blacklisting action'?

**Shri Karmarkar:** 'Blacklisting' is putting in the black list, that is to say, a man is not given any import or export licence etc; it applies to people who seek to obtain licences from us.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know the names and/or designation of the 8 Gazetted officers against whom action was taken, and also what action was taken?

**Shri Karmarkar:** (1) Shri C. R. Mankikar, Asstt. Controller of Imports and Exports—Case pending in court.

(2) Shri B. M. Sapre, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Case pending in court.

(3) Shri J. N. Mukerji, Controller of Imports and Exports—Reverted to Customs Department and discharged.

(4) Shri P. K. Dutta, Examining Officer—Reverted to Customs.

(5) Shri V. D. Jhingen, Assistant Director, Enforcement—Dismissed from service.

(6) Shri M. M. Lal, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Removed from service.

(7) Shri T. R. Verma, Assistant Controller of Imports and Exports—Suspended from service. (A reference to U.P.S.C. has been made for determining the quantum of punishment)

(8) Shri S. A. Venkataraman, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry—Dismissed from service.

**Diwan Raghayendra Rao:** May I know if Government are contemplating a change in the Public Services Commission Rules giving them more powers to exercise control over the officers with a view to check corruption?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The question may be addressed to the Home Ministry in due course.

**CENTRAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, RANCHI**

\*320. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Training Institute has been established at Ranchi for training officers for development work;

(b) if so, how many officers are undergoing training there; and

(c) the States to which they belong?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A centre has been established at Ranchi for the training of Block Development Officers.

(b) 34.

(c) Assam, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Vindhya Pradesh, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and N.E.F.A.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****BHAKRA NANGAL DAM**

\*288. **Shri S. C. Singhal:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the result of the recent trial experiments carried out at the Bhakra-Nangal Dams;

(b) by what time the regular supply of water to the fields will commence and what will be the irrigation rates; and

(c) when will electric power be ready for supply and what will be its rates?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Except for a slight damage to the Syphon on the Gagar Crossing of the Bhakra Main Canal, all the trials recently carried out proved satisfactory.

(b) (i) Supply commenced from the 8th July, 1954;

(ii) The water rates per acre matured of culturable commanded area are:

(a) Perennial—Rs. 6-0-0.

(b) Non-Perennial—Rs. 3-12-0.

(c) Restricted perennial—Rs. 6-0-0.

(c) (i) By the end of September, 1954.

(ii) A statement giving the rates for the different types of load is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in the Library. See No. S-274/54.]

**STATE INDUSTRIES**

\*302. **Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the necessity of starting state industries on a regional basis to enable different regions of India to get the benefits of technical training and employment;

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at; and

(c) whether they have accepted the principle of regionalisation?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (c). The desirability of starting State Industries on a regional basis so far as raw materials, transport and other factors permit, is borne in mind in examining specific projects. This aspect will be kept in view especially in formulating the Second Five Year Plan.

**AID TO SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES**

\*305. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given assistance to all the States under the State Aid to Industries Act:

(b) whether the State Governments have made provision for financial and other assistance to the small-scale industries in their current budgets;