

Shri Karmarkar: It is quite good.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister has supplied us figures in the statement which go to show that the imported ceiling fan as well as the table fan compare favourably as regards price. May I know why the number of factories existing in India has decreased in 1951?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not sure as to why the number of factories has decreased, if it has decreased, but so far as I am aware, the present annual demand is estimated to be 235,000 tons and so far as ceiling fans are concerned, we have completely cut out the import.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the production has been affected in any way due to the non-supply of the steel required by them?

Shri Karmarkar: I am happy that the hon. Member put that question. In fact production has been progressively increasing. In 1949 the production was 170,843. In 1950 it was 193,799 and in 1951 it was 212,495 Nos.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the British manufacturers of the G.E.C. are considered to be local manufacturers?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the production of fans is according to the rated capacity of the various firms?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I might mention that production is not according to the rated capacity. The rated capacity is higher. It does not always happen that production is according to rated capacity.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN TEA GARDENS

*747. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the labour troubles and *fracas* that took place in different tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal in the year 1951-52 and also up to the 30th April, 1952;

(b) the causes of the trouble and *fracas*;

(c) in how many cases the tea estate officers were attacked and man-handled;

(d) whether there was any loss of life;

(e) whether any enquiry either official or non-official was made; and

(f) if so, what are the findings?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) There were 34 cases of stoppage of work in tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal from the 1st April, 1951 to the 30th April, 1952. Four stoppages resulted in acts of violence. In addition, there were nine cases of *fracas* in Assam.

(b) The more important of the causes of the stoppages and *fracas* were:

- (1) dis-satisfaction over supply of rations;
- (2) demand for increased wages;
- (3) protest against alleged ill-treatment by the managerial or supervisory staff; and
- (4) dismissal of workers.

(c) In seven cases tea estate officers were attacked.

(d) In one tea estate in Assam, a worker died as the result of the injuries sustained in a *fracas* between two sections of workers over the throwing of coloured water on *fagua* day.

(e) and (f). The officers of the State Government charged with the duty of conciliation intervened and settled the disputes. In cases involving violence, the officers in charge of law and order intervened and took necessary action. In two cases, the courts have convicted the accused.

Shri Venkataraman: Is it a fact that under the Tea Districts Migration Act, labour was assured that they would get rations if they joined service in Assam and West Bengal and is it a fact that rice and rations were not supplied according to that agreement?

Shri V. V. Giri: For the first part of the question, the answer is yes. As regards the second part, I have no information.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know how many of the workmen were injured in the *fracas*?

Shri V. V. Giri: I fear I have not got the information. I shall supply it to the hon. Member.

Shri Thann Pillai: May I know whether it is fact that many of these troubles are due to the refusal of the right of entry to the friends and relatives of the labourers to see the labourers who serve in the estates?

Shri V. V. Giri: I do not think so.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to part (d) of the question, the hon. Minister said that one life was lost and that it was of a worker. May I know whether his family has been compensated?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have no information. If the hon. Member requires information, I shall give it.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Minister has received any information regarding the firing that took place in the Pasumalai tea estate in Travancore-Cochin State with regard to rationing...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the fact that the Minister said that one of the causes of the dispute was wages, what is the average rate of wages for men, women and children?

Shri V. V. Giri: I should like to have notice.

Shri Nambiar: Arising out of the answer given, may I know whether the Government would seriously consider the institution of an enquiry into the working conditions in tea estates because so much trouble is there?

Shri V. V. Giri: There was an enquiry into the working conditions in tea estates.

Shri Tushar Chatterjee: May I know whether in such enquiries labour representatives are taken in?

Shri V. V. Giri: Representatives are taken in and certainly their views have been given there.

Shri B. S. Murthy: How many workers have been dismissed? May I know whether they have been taken after the Conciliation Board awards?

Shri V. V. Giri: Notice.

WIND MILLS

*748. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experiments about the Wind Mills carried out by Government in different parts of India, have been completed;

(b) if so, the results;

(c) the average cost of a Wind Mill in India including installation charges; and

(d) the expenditure for the experiments?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) No systematic experiments have been carried out in India on the possibilities of utilising wind power.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Imported equipment of several types has been offered occasionally which has not been considered very suitable. The price would be about Rs. 5000/- (including cost of installation for a small size equipment.

(d) Does not arise.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that no experimental work has been carried out by the Government to find out whether wind mills can be profitably used in this country?

Shri Nanda: Some experiments were carried out in Poona during the past few years. The position is that for the purpose of these experiments a velocity of 10 miles is required. All our observation stations have got only about 8 or less. We have not yet been able to obtain speed recorders of a suitable type. Therefore, systematic investigation has not been set on foot. I may inform hon. Members that very recently the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research who have a committee called the Electrical and Radio Engineering Research Committee have set up a sub-committee for the purpose of collecting relevant data and information and preparing a plan for a wind turbine unit and to submit a report.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that experimental work in wind mills will be carried out in the future?

Shri Nanda: I have already answered that question that a sub-committee has been appointed specifically for that purpose.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any assistance and direction have been sought by the Central Government from foreign wind mill manufacturing companies in this direction?

Shri Nanda: The Government have been watching continuously the progress of experimental activities in other countries. In other countries also, this question is at an experimental stage.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह बात सत्य है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने विन्ड मिल खोलने का कोई ऐसा प्रयास किया, और यदि हां, तो उस में कितना रूपया खर्च करने का प्रोग्राम है और अब तक कितना खर्च हुआ है ?