

Shri Karmarkar: The official Editor: Yes, Sir.

Shri B. C. Das: May I know whether suggestion is invited from the State Governments before these documentary films are prepared?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. This work is done in co-operation with the States.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next Question.

Shri Raghavaiah rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is a little late.

Shri Raghavaiah: Yes, Sir.

Will the Government produce documentaries relating to the Bakhra-Nangal and D. V. C. projects?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information about that, but I should presume so.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD

*947. **Shri Shivnanjappa:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state as to how many times the Central Silk Board has met this year? -

(b) What is the nature of the business transacted?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Board met last in September, 1952, and its Standing Committee held meetings in February, 1953, and July, 1953.

(b) A number of schemes for the development of the sericulture industry were examined and grants for such schemes sanctioned.

Shri Shivnanjappa: May I know the specific reasons for not convening this meeting since the Board was re-constituted in December?

Shri Karmarkar: The Board normally meets once a year, and the Standing Committee meets oftener, whenever it is necessary.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: When will be the next meeting of the Board?

Shri Karmarkar: After the new Board is constituted, I think.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What were the subjects discussed by the Standing Committee which met recently in Bombay?

Shri Karmarkar: I could mention a few schemes. It is a long list. The Standing Committee which met in February and July this year considered the following which are under implementation by the Central Silk Board:

- (i) consideration and examination of various steps for increasing production of raw silk in India;
- (ii) assistance to the spun silk industry;
- (iii) consideration of the question of improving the present methods of marketing of silk;
- (iv) grading of silk waste; and
- (v) collection of statistical information relating to the production of pure silk fabrics from.....

Shall I read the whole thing?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is no communique issued regarding this matter as soon as decisions are taken?

Shri Karmarkar: Normally, a press note is issued.

Shri Raghavaiah: Since the constitution of the Silk Board, may I know how many times the Standing Committee met, and what are the important subjects discussed at these meetings?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice about that. Normally, the Standing Committee meets twice a year, if I can trust my memory. Regarding the subjects discussed, I should like to have notice.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether, after the constitution of this Board, the marketing of silk has improved?

Shri Karmarkar: The marketing question is being considered, as I said.

SHEET GLASS FACTORIES

*948. **Shri Shivananjappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any sheet glass factories in India;

(b) the places where they are situated; and

(c) whether there is any proposal submitted by the Travancore and Cochin Government along with a request from a private firm to start one factory in that State?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two in Bihar, and one in Uttar Pradesh at Bahjoi. Another factory is being put up at Assansol in West Bengal which is expected to go into production by March, 1954.

(c) No proposal has been submitted by the Travancore-Cochin Government; but a scheme for the setting up of a factory in that State has been received from a private party.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know, Sir, the nature of the help that the Government are giving to the sheet glass manufacturers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Actually, the kind of help Government can give in a matter like this is only a question of making the raw materials available and giving them such technical advice as is available to us.

श्री शिवानजप्पा : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि ग्लास शीट्स जो हिन्दूस्तान में तैयार होती हैं, उससे हिन्दूस्तान की जरूरत पूरी हो जाती है ?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Certainly, Sir, the Indian production is not adequate for our consumption, and so a certain amount of import has to be allowed.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether these firms are wholly Indian or whether they are foreign partnerships?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know the reasons why there was entire stoppage of production of sheet glass for four months as reported in the Commerce and Industry Ministry's Statistics of Production, in October, 1952?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is probably because the Sodepur Glass Works had closed down. I am not able to say anything in regard to the other factories. If the hon. Member puts down a question, I will answer.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The hon. Minister stated that there has been a request from a private party in Travancore-Cochin. May I know the name of the person? Is it the proprietor of the Ogale Glass Factory at Alwaye?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That was an old story. The Ogale Glass Works did put up a proposal, but subsequently they withdrew the proposal, presumably for want of finance. This is a different party altogether, who wanted to manufacture in Cochin. He was asked to send in his application to the licensing committee. So far no application has been received.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Minister referred to the sheet glass factory in Bihar. May I know when that factory was founded, and whether it is run by Government agency or by any private party?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I think the history of this factory is fairly familiar to the hon. Member. At the moment, I think the factory is under the control of the Industrial Finance Corporation.

Shri Punnoose: Is it a fact that a type of sand found in certain parts of the coastal line of Travancore-Cochin is very helpful for the production of sheet glass, and if so have the Government explored the possibilities of encouraging that industry there?