

**DELEGATIONS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO
FIND OUT EXPORT MARKETS FOR
TOBACCO**

676. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND CONSUMER INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any delegations were sent to foreign countries during the year 1955-56 to find out markets for the export of tobacco from India ;

(b) if so, who are the members of the delegations ; and

(c) which are the countries visited by these members?

THE MINISTER FOR TRADE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) to (c). No tobacco delegation was sent during the financial year 1955-56. A delegation was however sent in May, 1956 to African and West Asian countries to explore possibilities of finding markets for bidis and tobacco. The delegation consisted of Dr. M. S. Patel, Secretary of the Indian Central Tobacco Committee and Mr. i Manibhai, a bidi trader. They visited Egypt, Gold Coast, Nigeria, Sudan, British East Africa, Zanzibar and Aden.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether the delegation was able to secure a new market for our tobacco ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, the delegation were not expected to canvass for it because the general goodwill is there, and I hope their visit will prove favourable for our export trade of tobacco.

SHRI V. C. KESVA RAO: May I know the countries which are importing Indian tobacco ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I have not got the information but my friend can easily find it in the library in the latest issue of the Overseas Journal for Trade.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO : May I know whether any of the countries visited by the delegation have purchased low grade tobacco from India?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should like to have notice.

CHANGE IN THE COURSE OF RIVER SUTLEJ

677. SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what lands have been gained or lost by the shifting of the course of river Sutlej which is regarded as boundary between India and Pakistan, since the 15th August, 1947 ;

(b) what steps have been taken by the Government of India that erosion of land by that river may not take place on the side of India ; and

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred in this connection ?

SHRI KISHEN CHAND : Sir, I find in the question that only the river Sutlej has been mentioned. Both the rivers Sutlej and Ravi should be there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : " Shifting of the course of the rivers Sutlej and Ravi". Ravi has been omitted.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND : Sutlej is there but Ravi has been omitted.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) The meandering has been slight and no precise information is available about the lands lost or gained.

(b) No protective or training works have been found to be necessary.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND : I want to know this from the hon. Minister. It is now nine years since partition took place and in the period of nine years, we have not taken any account of the area.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : There is protection only as far as the river Ravi is concerned. As far as the river Sutlej is concerned it is not necessary.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Will the hon. Minister get the information and place it on the Table of the House?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : I shall consider it.