

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Committee has drawn the attention of the Government to the fact that stores worth Rs. 10 lakhs are lying in the open maidan exposed to the mercy of the monsoon?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That was not within the terms of reference of the Committee.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has the Committee made recommendations on all the terms of reference?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes, Sir.

INDO-TURKISH TRADE AGREEMENT

*53. SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the quantities and values of articles covered by the Indo-Turkish Trade Agreement signed recently; and

(b) what are the reasons for the exclusion of coir manufactures and the inclusion of coir yarn in the said agreement?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Copies of the Trade Agreement which contains the necessary details have already been supplied to the Library of the House.

(b) Turkey was not keen on the inclusion of coir manufactures. The exclusion of this item from the list does not, however, in any way affect the export of coir manufactures to Turkey.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: What is the quantity of coir manufactured goods that is actually being exported to Turkey now?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: 'Now' means?

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: This year.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should like to refer my hon. friend to our excellent publication on our overseas trade, copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: What is the quantity of coir yarn exported?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: As I said, the export of coir yarn is not provided for in the agreement except in a general way.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: I am asking about coir yarn. What is the quantity of coir yarn that is exported under the agreement to Turkey?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It is open even now to Turkey to import coir yarn or coir manufactured goods to the extent it likes.

MERGER OF CHANDERNAGORE WITH WEST BENGAL

*54. SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to merge Chandernagore with West Bengal or in the alternative to constitute it as a Part C State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA): There is no such proposal. It is for the people of Chandernagore to decide their future administrative set-up. The Government are considering, in consultation with Chandernagore leaders, the best manner of ascertaining the wishes of the people of this territory. Any final decision will also have to take into consideration administrative conveniences.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: May I know what are the steps that the Government are taking to ascertain the wishes of the people of Chandernagore?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: We are considering as to what should be the exact form of ascertaining the wishes of the people there.

SHRI B. RATH: May I know how long it will take for the Government of India to decide as to what form they should adopt to ascertain the wishes of the people there?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: I cannot give any exact date.

SHRI B. RATH: Since when have they taken over the management of Chandernagore?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: The *de jure* transfer took place about a year and a half ago.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact that the Government of India have given an assurance to the people of Chandernagore as well as to the other people who have not yet come to us that their cultural and other kinds of autonomy would be respected?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: What steps do the Government propose to take regarding the request of the people of Chandernagore about the powers of the municipality there being restored?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: We are arranging for the municipal elections.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: It is not a question of municipal election only. The old municipality which has been dissolved had greater powers of local self-government. That municipality was dissolved, and the demand of the people of Chandernagore now is that the powers of the old municipality should be restored so that they may have more control over the finances in order to be able to devote them to education, health and other improvements.

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: We have received a number of representations from the people of Chandernagore and all these are being examined.

SHRI B. RATH: Did the hon. Minister consult the leaders of public opinion in Chandernagore?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: Yes.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that the elected representatives of Chandernagore were not consulted but that those who were defeated in the last municipal elections were consulted?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: At present there are no elected representatives of Chandernagore.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Has there been any representation from the people of Chandernagore that the Indian labour codes and tenancy laws should be applied to Chandernagore?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: As I said, we have received a number of representations, and some of these representations deal with labour laws, tenancy laws etc.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE EXPORT OF TOBACCO

*55. SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tobacco lying unsold on May 31, 1953, in the godowns for want of marketing facilities; and

(b) whether there is any quantitative restriction on its export; if so, what are the reasons?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) It is not possible to estimate accurately the quantity of tobacco lying unsold in the country for want of marketing facilities.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Council.

Statement

Quantitative restriction on export exists in the case of biri tobacco only. All other varieties of tobacco are licensed freely.