

MR. CHAIRMAN: The answer is that there is provision for water supply.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: I had been to Hirakud only in the month of June and I can say that there is no provision for water. In the temperature of 116° labourers had to work without water. I would like it to be contradicted, Sir.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Sir, at about ten places new water taps and water pipe lines were laid in April 1953. If the hon. Member talks of June, I can tell him that new water pipes and lines have been laid in about ten places.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: After June 1953?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: After the Minister for Irrigation and Power visited the area—he found that there were not sufficient amenities for water supply for the labourers—these things were done and about 100 taps had been laid there. This is between March and May.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Is water coming from the taps?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes, and in those places where it was not possible to get it due to the high level of the ground, arrangements have been made to supply water.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that a riot took place in Gandhinagar Colony in the first week of July over water?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: There was no question of rioting taking place; there was some quarrel between the females only.

SHRI B. RATH: Will the hon. Minister concede the statement that the taps that had been opened in the different colonies are totally inadequate for the supply of water to the large number of labourers who stay in these colonies?

(No reply.)

#### EXPERT COMMITTEE FOR TEA INDUSTRY

\*63. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the progress made so far towards the setting up of an Expert Committee to inquire into the cost structure of the tea industry?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): The matter is still under consideration.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Do not Government consider this matter as urgent?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, Sir. Government do consider this as urgent but, since it is to be an expert committee, we are in a little difficulty to find the expert personnel.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that the question is hanging fire for the last six months?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It has been hanging fire but, in the meantime, the conditions have improved and the fire has been partially extinguished.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that the labourers' condition is still unhappy now though.....

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Labourers are also less unhappy now than before.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that 60,000 labourers are on strike in Assam?

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

#### PERMIT SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL TO AND FROM FRENCH INDIA

\*64. SHRI B. RATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce permit system for the regulation of travel to and from French India;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the reasons for introduction of this system?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA):** (a) and (b). The Government of India are considering a proposal to introduce a permit system for regulating travel between Indian territory and the French Settlements. The details of the scheme are still under consideration. The object of this measure is to check smuggling which is taking place on a large scale on the Indo-French border.

**SHRI B. RATH:** Is it a particular type of people in Mahe who are engaged in smuggling or all the people of Mahe are engaged in smuggling?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Smugglers are a special class.

**SHRI B. RATH:** Particular type?

**SHRI A. K. CHANDA:** Smugglers are a special class.

**SHRI B. RATH:** So, instead of trying to prevent the smugglers from getting into the Indian Union for taking the goods, what is the necessity of introducing a permit system which would stand in the way of people of Mahe coming to see their relatives in the Indian Union?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Restrictions have to be imposed only on the special class. Why do you prevent ordinary honest people like the Members of the Opposition from coming?

**MR. NUTTING'S OBSERVATIONS ABOUT INDIA**

**\*65. SHRI B. RATH:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a statement made by Mr. Nutting, the British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons to the effect that India has been very helpful in the matter of continuance of facilities for the recruitment of Gurkhas in the Nepal territory and allied matters: and

(b) if so, whether Government agree with the observations of Mr. Nutting?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA):** (a) Government of India have seen press reports to this effect.

(b) The question of Government agreeing or not with general and rather vague statements does not arise. They appreciate friendly references by foreign countries. The facts are, as stated previously, that the Government of India asked the British Government to revise their arrangements which were made under the Tripartite Agreement of 1947 so as to put an end to the recruitment of Gurkhas in Indian territory. The U.K. Government agreed and later entered into a direct agreement with the Nepal Government removing their recruiting depots to Nepalese territory. We have been kept informed of these developments but are not a party to this agreement between the U.K. Government and Nepal.

**SHRI B. RATH:** Is it a fact that on the 20th of July in the House of Commons Mr. Nutting made a statement that the Government of India was helpful in bringing about an agreement between the Government of Nepal and the British Government? Has the Government of India contradicted such a statement made in the House of Commons if it was not true?

**SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU:** We always try to be helpful to everyone.

**SHRI B. RATH:** What is the kind of help that was given by the Government of India to the British Govern-