

COUNCIL OF STAT

Wednesday, 6th May 1953

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock in the morning, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

, ASSISTANCE TO A CONTRACTOR AT HIRAKUD

*558f. SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether all machines, transport vehicles, supervisory personnel and other facilities were provided by Government in respect of the contract work entrusted to Messrs. Jogindra Singh & Co. at Hirakud?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : According to the terms of the contract machines and transport vehicles for carriage of rubble from quarry to crushing plant are to be supplied to the contractor M/s. Jogindra Singh and Co., free of hire charges. The cost of running and maintenance of machinery is borne by the contractor. Neither the supervisory personnel is supplied by the Government nor are any supervision charges being incurred.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Was it stipulated in the original contract that the machines and transport vehicles will be supplied to this firm free of all charges and if so, was it mentioned in the notice calling for tenders that such and such machines and transport vehicles will be supplied free of all charges?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes. The tender notices were issued and in the notices this was mentioned.

tHeld over from the List of Questions for the 29th April 1953. 39 CSD

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is the hon. Minister sure that this term was not a later interpolation in the contract?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: There was no interpolation.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I know in which other projects such facilities are allowed to contractors.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: There are some places in D. V. C. where for exa-uation of canals bull-dozers etc. are being supplied to the contractors free of charges.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that some over-payments have been made to this firm?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a different matter.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I shall reply to that. In December last it was brought to the notice of the Government that some over-payments were made because of some mistake in measurement. That is being checked and enquiry against the S. D. O. who was in charge of it is being made.

CO-OPERATIVE CONCERNS AT NILOKHERI

*562t. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) how many co-operative concerns were started at Nilokheri.

(b) how many are at present running on co-operative basis;

(c) what was the population of refugee settlpd' at Nilokheri in 1951:

(d) what is their population I and

(e) what was the total and *per capita* expenditure on Nilokheri administration in the year 1951-52?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) 17.

(b) 14.

(c) 5,731.

(d) Census has not been taken after 1951 but estimated population is about 7,000.

(e) Total—Rs. 1.64 lakhs.

Per capita—Rs. 25:3.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Why have the co-operative societies been stopped? Most of them are not working though the hon. Minister said that 14 are working.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Out of these 17, three have been closed because of slump in the trade and because of lack of technical personnel and finances.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Does the appearance of Nilo-kheri today arouse enthusiasm and hope in the mind of the spectators and those who live there?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I think the hon. Member visited Nilokheri a few days ago. Except for the 3 Co-operative Societies that have not been working the others are working but they also feel some difficulty because of the slump in the country.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Does Government know how many persons are working in such cooperatives?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I have no information about the total number of persons working.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: What are the kinds of co-operative concerns that are running in Nilokheri?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The Manual Woodworking Shop Co-operative, the Mechanical Woodworking Shop, Engineering Workshop, Sheet Metal Workshop, Weaving and Dyeing, Soap-making, Trunk manufacture, Hosiery—

these are industrial and there are non-industrials like Dairy Farms, the Nilokheri Sales Co-operatives, The Consumers Co-operatives, the Nilokheri Labour and Construction Co-operatives, the Vegetable Growers Co-operatives, Better Farming Co-operatives, etc.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Out of the 17 co-operatives, how many are multipurpose and how many are otherwise?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: None is multipurpose according to my information.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Is the Minister aware that the chief small industries are handloom-weaving, shoe-making and soap-making. Shoe-making has been stopped completely and handloom weavers is at a very low ebb and so also soap-making?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: That is what I said that the 3 co-operatives have stopped.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Does the hon. Minister know that the goods made there are not sold in the township but are sent to Karnal and Delhi?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: They are sent out for sales.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: They are not sold so much in the townships but are sent to Karnal and Delhi. Is it not significant that the township is not self-sufficient?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: They may be sent for sale outside.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: How many people are engaged in the administrative sector, *i.e.*, in the township and the Community Projects?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I can't say the number of persons who are unemployed.

PROF. G. RANGA: What is the membership of these co-operative and how many of them are provided with work?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Out of the 17 co-operative societies I think 11 are being provided with work.

PROF. G. RANGA: What is the membership of Uiesa co-operative societies and how many of them are employed?

SK.1 J. S. L. HATHI: I have no information at present about the total membership.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Who was the Administrator in charge of Nilokheri and why was he not retained there to make a success of the project and! justify the expenses that the Government have incurred?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That has been answered yesterday.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: Are these co-operative societies run under the Community Projects?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No. This was a scheme for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. It does not work under the Community Projects.

EXPORT OF TEA

*612. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether, of late, the export of tea from India has fallen short of the quota allotted under "the International Tea Agreement; if so, why?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): The actual exports have always been short of the permissible quota fixed under the International Tea Agreement, except for the year 1949-50. The permissible quota is always fixed high so as to allow participating countries to export the maximum quantity possible.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The latter half requires little more addition. This year, in view of the position, we tried to have a little less of export quota in order to save the in-

digenous tea industry but the other participants were not ready and in such cases the decision has to be unanimous. Therefore we could not proceed with it.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: As per the statistics given in the Journal of Industry and Trade, April 1953 issue, tea from April to November 1951 fetched 61.3 crores and in 1952 for the same period 51.8 crores which means a fall of 10 crores nearly.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I would like to verify that still further but I find that actual exports in terms of millions of lbs. was in 1951-52 425.5 million lbs. and in 1952-53 it was 305218 million lbs. Regarding the value, I shall look into it.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: As per this journal, from April to November the quantity exported in millions is 273 in 1951 and 269 in 1952 which means a fall of 4 million lbs. in exports.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It is likely. It is not impossible.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the reasons for this fall according to Government opinion?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The reason is fall in off-take obviously.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that there is great competition from other countries?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is what I said. There is competition from Ceylon and other countries.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the facilities provided by the Government to see that our tea is sold in foreign countries? Are actions like removal of export duty contemplated by Government?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: My hon. friend knows that we are giving all possible facilities. Tea is one of our important exports and the crisis is due