

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: In the capital?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Yes, Sir.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I can say with a certain amount of confidence that the housing situation in Delhi has been considerably relieved of late and the original pernicious practice of *pugree* and such like other things have disappeared to a very great extent. I cannot say they have entirely disappeared, but the situation has greatly improved.

EXPEDITIONS TO THE HIMALAYAS

*714. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mountaineering expeditions to the Himalayas during the last five years;

(b) out of the expeditions how many were Indian and how many foreign, and how many were combined expeditions;

(c) what was the duration of stay of each of the foreign expeditions in India, *i.e.*, the time between their arrival, in and departure from India;

(d) how many of these expeditions succeeded in reaching their target on the Himalayas;

(e) whether any financial help was given by Government to any of these expeditions; and

(f) if so, how much?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Twenty-three.

(b) One Indian, and the remaining foreign.

(c) Government have no information about the exact duration of their stay in India, but it did not generally exceed six months.

(d) Government have no information.

(e) and (f). None.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Were any railway concessions or any other concession given to the expeditions?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir. The only concession that was given was exemption from payment of customs duty on certain equipment.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the name of the Indian expedition that went there?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Shri Asoka Mudgaonkar of Bombay's Expedition to Himalayas and Nepal.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Which nationalities were represented in the other expeditions?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Seven nationalities.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Which?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Swiss, Danish, British, Italian, French, New Zealand and Japanese.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know if these expeditions are making available to the Indian Government the results of the expeditions, especially from the geographical point of view?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The question does not arise, Sir.

EXPORT OF IRON ORE TO JAPAN

*715. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with Japan regarding the export of iron ore to Japan;

(b) what is India's reserve of iron ore; and

(c) which are the areas in India where the iron ore is found in plenty?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The total reserves of iron ore in major deposits are estimated to be 10,200 million tons.

(c) The major deposits are found in the States of Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Mysore.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Were not negotiations going on with a Japanese firm, Sir?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am not aware of any negotiations. I should like to have notice to find out

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What is the annual utilisation of iron ore in India and also our exports?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I have the production figures here. In 1950 we produced 2,965.194 tons and in 1951 we produced 3,656.661 tons. The other figures, I shall find out.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister gave us 10,200 million tons as the total reserves. Does it include all kinds of ore or only such ore as can be economically converted?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: 10.200 million tons is, I presume, the total estimated deposits.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: But I wanted to know what part of it is possible to be economically worked.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I presume, Sir, that this is the quantity available for economic use.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How much are you exporting every year?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think I have the figures here. In 1951-52 we exported 280,102 tons of the value of Rs. 99,99,110. In 1952-53 from April to January we exported 658,196 tons of the value of Rs. 3 crores and odd.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Was this ore export allowed because there was not sufficient capacity to use that ore in India?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is so, Sir. We plan to increase that capacity.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: In view of the fact that it is most uneconomical to export ore and bring steel and iron from foreign countries, may I ask if the Government is taking steps to see that the production capacity in India is increased?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The assumption in the first part of the question is fallacious, because we are utilising to the fullest possible extent of our internal capacity the iron ore that is available. What is more, we export, because we cannot utilise that, and if it is necessary, We import steel to the necessary extent.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I may add that Government is exploring the possibility of increasing the steel production of the country.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Apart from the 10.200 million tons of iron ore deposits mentioned by the hon. Minister, have geological experts reported the existence of extensive iron ore deposits in other places?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: This is the information with us up to date.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Has it come to the notice of the hon. Minister that even in the district of South Kanara, geological experts have reported the existence of extensive iron ore deposits?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I shall require notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Government will take note of it.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I sMaE take note of it.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Even though Government have not so far entered into an agreement with Japan for the export of iron ore, may I ask if Government are considering a proposal to enter into such an agreement?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I do not think there is any idea of entering into an agreement with regard to this particular item.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Is there any proposal to export iron ore to any other country than Japan?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: To wherever it can go.

MANUFACTURE OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE

*716. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the out-put of ammonium sulphate from private concerns, such as Tata's and Government concerns other than the Sindri Fertilizer Factory per day; and

(b) which are the places where it is manufactured?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) The production during 1952 was about 48,000 tons, which comes to about 160 tons per day on the basis of 300 working days per year.

(b) Jamshedpur, Kasunda and Bansjora in Bihar, Burripur in Bengal, Alwaye in Travancore-Cochin and Mysore.

مولانا ایم-فاروقی : کیا سندری فیکٹری کے علاوہ اور کوئی دوسری فیکٹری گورنمنٹ نے قائم کی ہے؟

†[MOULANA M. FARUQI: Has the Government opened any other factory besides the Sindri Factory?]

श्री डी० पी० कारमारकर : गवर्नमेंट ने नहीं कायम की है।

†[SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Government has opened no other factory.]

श्री वी० के धागे : सवाल क्या है सुनाई नहीं दिया ?

†[SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What was the question? It was inaudible.]

مولانا ایم-فاروقی : کیا گورنمنٹ نے

اور کوئی دوسری فیکٹری قائم کی ہے ؟

†[MOULANA M. FARUQI: Has the Government opened any other factory?]

श्री डी० पी० कारमारकर : नहीं जी, दूसरी फैक्ट्री नहीं कायम की है।

†[SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: No Sir, Government has opened no other factory?]

مولانا ایم-فاروقی : گورنمنٹ نے اس

کو کاشتکاروں میں پاپولر کرنے کے لئے کیا طریقہ اختیار کیا ہے ؟

†[MOULANA M. FARUQI: What method has the Government adopted to popularise it among the cultivators?]

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think the Agriculture Ministry has some scheme for making it popular. I think that scheme relates to the grant of some concession. I am not sure what that concession is. Takavi loans, I understand, are being granted to agriculturists to enable them to purchase fertilizers.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Is it not a fact that on account of the shortage of sulphur, the fertilizer factory in Travancore-Cochin has not been able to produce to its full capacity?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think that was true last year, but this year the sulphur position has become much easier, as my hon. friend knows.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Am I to take it that they are being supplied with the necessary quantities of sulphur?