

PROF. G. RANGA: Apart from the exact figure, the hon. Minister must be having some approximate figure. What is the present position? Are we renewing this agreement? Shall we be able to get our own technical experts trained here so that they would be able to manage this factory?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Six of our men have already gone abroad for training in the company's plants.

PERCENTAGE OF INDIA'S SHARE IN THE WORLD TRADE

*448., SHRI. M. VAUULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of India's share in the world trade in each year from 1947 to 1952; and

(b) what is the percentage of Asia's share in the world trade in each year during the same period?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA-MACHARI): (a) India's share of world trade was approximately 2 to 3 per cent, during each of the years from 1947 to 1951. Information for 1952 is not available.

(b) Asia's share of world trade during the same period was about 11 to 15 per cent.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Was any conference of Asian countries held with a view to promoting exports of more articles to other countries?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: No such conference was held for that specific purpose. But we have conferences under the aegis of what is called ECAFE. We have also conferences for promotion of trade within the area.

SHRI M., VALIULLA: The hon. Minister was pleased to mention that various conferences are held. For ins-

tance, was there any conference held in addition to the conferences held in Singapore and in Manila?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I must ask for notice.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the recommendations of these conferences?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: There are no recommendations as such. These conferences are clearing houses for information. Speeches are made and information is given and it is up to the countries concerned to follow it up. No specific recommendations are entertained in these conferences.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is the Government aware that it is the unanimous opinion of the conferences that the countries should arrange for having more co-ordinated research programmes and for the establishment of more regional research laboratories?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: All kinds of matters are brought within the scope of discussion in these conferences. Government are undoubtedly aware of what is being done. But what the Indian Government can do is limited by the availability of men, materials and resources.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Am I to take it that nothing is being done by the Government of India to arrange special meetings with other countries for purposes of co-ordinated work?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: What is being done is to enter into bilateral trade negotiations with various countries. We have not gone further than that, excepting for the part we take in these various conferences. No doubt we have often-times studies made of our export possibilities, and this is a continuous process. I am exercising my mind on these things now and again when I have a little time. But I must again plead that dearth of personnel and resources hampers progress.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are any efforts being made to develop inter-Asian trade either by developing contacts through all these conferences or through our own trade representatives or otherwise?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI:

As I said, it is a continuous progress. The amount of pressure behind it perhaps varies with the personality of the Ministry concerned and their knowledge. As I said, we are suffering from various handicaps with regard to personnel, etc. We do not look upon it purely as a matter of inter-Asian trade: we do want trade to develop with other countries of the world, and as much trade as possible with every country.

PROF. G. RANGA: Have we attempted to enter into bilateral trade agreements with all or most of the Asian countries with which we have trade relations?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, as I said, we have a lot of bilateral agreements. The trade agreements often-times remain pious wishes recorded on paper. So long as trade is in private hands, very much cannot be done. It is not a question of Government-to-Government trade. As I said, we have yet to develop a proper organisation at Governmental level which can influence trade to the extent that we consider desirable and necessary.

**PROFIT EARNED BY FOREIGNERS FROM
INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE**

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

(a) what is the profit made by foreign enterprise in handling India's foreign trade in each year from 1948 onwards; and

(b) whether Government are considering the question of handling India's foreign trade (i) through any Government agency; or (ii) through any Indian firm or company?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI):
(a) Information is not available.

(b) Certain aspects of this question are being reviewed by the State Trading Committee.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it the case that there are no foreign firms which are making profits by the sale of our goods to foreign markets?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Undoubtedly there are foreign firms here doing export trade

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The bulk of the trade.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: but the point really is to assess what profits they make out of the foreign trade. What we know really is the amount that they remit from here to their country. The Reserve Bank keeps a check upon it. Information can be given in regard to remittances. But whether they cover profits or dividends or interest, or whether it is a mere question of disinvestment, is not a thing which we are able to separate.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that the bulk of the foreign trade of India is carried away by foreign companies through commission agents, and that they take away the bulk of the profits?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: That is the common superstition. I do not think it is really so. I do admit that they have a large portion of the trade, but I cannot say it is the bulk of the trade.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that they have more than 50 per cent, of our foreign trade?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I have never attempted any evaluation of the percentage. I do realise that a very large portion of the trade is in