

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should like to go further into the matter and find out if there is any complaint about it.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are these experts still working here?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think they have now gone.

DR SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is the Government aware that the machinery which has been imported by Government from Japan cannot be duplicated in different States for want of funds? And if so, will Government help them with funds?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Suggestion for action.

IMPORT OF MACHINERY SUITABLE FOR COTTAGE INDUSTRY

*564. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Japanese Government had agreed to send sample machinery suitable for cottage industries on the advice of the Indian delegation to Japan; and

(b) whether any such machinery was imported; and, if not, why not?

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

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH: Has Government assessed the cost of production through the use of these cottage industry machines and compared it with the cost of large scale production?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: In respect of these machines, the cost of production compares quite well with the cost of large scale production and there has been no difficulty. In fact there is very great demand and that demand we have attempted to fulfil.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Apart from the cost of production, does the employment of small-scale machines mean solving the unemployment problem to a large extent?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It is very difficult to assess these matters; but to the extent that these machines are in operation, I think to that little extent the unemployment problem must be presumed to have been solved.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is it a fact that the Japanese Government was willing to give machinery worth Rs. 2 lakhs free of cost if the Government of India paid freight on that machinery, and that the machinery reached as far as Karachi but the Government refused to pay Rs. 12,000 because there was no sanction, and that therefore it went back?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I shall look into the matter. But we always welcome any assistance from any Government, if it is suitable.

EXPORT OF RUBBER

*565. SHRI RAHMATH-ULLAH: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether there is any ban on the export of rubber from India to the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and China?

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

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Why not?

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Have there been exports of rubber to the Soviet Union and China from India?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Of course from India: We are not concerned about exports from other countries.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: No, Sir.