

Association and the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Company ;

(b) whether the Association has requested that the dispute should be referred to an industrial tribunal; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI V. V. GIRI) : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The Association requested that the following demands should be referred to adjudication :

- (i) Abolishing of the contract system ;
- (ji) Withdrawal of the suspension order on two employees ;
- (MI) Revision of existing wages schedule of the employees ;
- (iv) Grant of certain facilities to the underground drivers of the mine.

Conciliation proceedings were held by the Industrial Relations Machinery in all the disputes. Demand No. (4) has since been amicably settled. Demand No. (2) was of a trivial nature, as it related to only a temporary suspension (since withdrawn) of two employees who were suspected of attempting to steal timber. The other two demands are under consideration of Government.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is it a fact that they have also repiesented regarding the exclusion of mining labour from the benefits of the Minimum Wages, Provident Fund and State Insurance Acts ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : Yes, Sir.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : What action has been taken by the Government in this regard ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : The Chief Commissioner of Labour has submitted his report and the Government is considering it and soon decisions and conclusions will follow.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : How soon, does the Government expect to consider the remaining few points?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : As early as possible.

DISTRIBUTION OF YARN OUTPUT

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*z6. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Madras Provincial Handloom Weavers' Congress, Nidubrolu (Madras State) requesting—

(0 that the total output of yarn in the country should be distributed in strict proportion to the estimated requirements of the various consumers of yarn including the composite and the weaving mills, and

(ii) that the field of entire production of sarees should be reserved exclusively for the handlooms ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) and (b). Yes, the points raised therein are under examination.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : May I know, Sir, whether the Government of Madras also suggested to this Government to reserve to the handloom weavers certain varieties of production of cloth like *dhotis* and *sarees* and if so what action has been taken by Government ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Government of Madras have been in constant communication in regard to the present serious condition of the handloom trade in Madras. A number of suggestions have been made by them and counter-suggestions have been made by the Ministry. All these matters are under examination.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Can Government ask the mills to confine their production to making cloth for coats, shirts, trousers, etc., for export purposes only?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Government may ask quite a number of things from the mills, but I do not know if they propose to.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Can the Government ask Madras mills at least to help the weavers in that State ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : All these questions are under examination and I am unable to give any precise answer to any of these questions because they relate to particular facets of a problem which is a difficult one and a very big one at the moment.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH : Is it true that the export demand depends on standardised qualities ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : To some extent it is true.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH : Is it true that the mill production as well as the handloom production of *dhotis* and *sarees* is inadequate even at present?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : That is what the experts tell us.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : Will the Minister inform the House on account of this matter being important and concerning 90 lakhs of people in Madras State, when a decision will be taken by which this export trade will be augmented ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The Ministry is engaged in this task, but the problem is not quite so easy as the hon. Member seems to visualise. The long-range problem can be tackled, but immediately it presents greater difficulties and all that I can say is that we are seized of this question and we are trying to do our best.

REPRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF MADRAS LEGISLATURE

*27. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from certain members of the Madras State Legislature regarding—

(z) the reduction in prices of yarn,

(zz) the purchase of the major portion of Government of India's requirement of textile goods from the handloom products, and

(m) the levy of an excise duty on yarn used by the weaving and the composite mills, and the utilisation of such levy for subsidising the handloom industry- and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) and (b). No such representation has been received by this Government.

EXPORT OF YARN

*28. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government consulted the State Governments before permitting the export of yarn; and

(b) what steps have been taken by the Central Government to secure adequate supply of yarn made out of Indian cotton to the handloom industry?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) No.

(b) (0 Every producer of cloth who has a spinning plant is required to sell in each quarter at least 1/8th of the total quantity of yarn sold by him in the years 1949 and 1950 taken together'.