

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'.

(«) Post-war mills are required to leave 25 per cent, of the spindleage increased by mills in all other States except Madras where the post-war mills are required to reserve 50% of the spindleage for this purpose.

(Hi) Spinning mills are required to pack for civil consumption at least 87^ per cent, of their production of yarn.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Government be prepared to prohibit the export of yarn spun out of Indian cotton if the Madras Government is prepared to agree to this ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is hypothetical.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I have not had any offer from the Government of Madras.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA : Do the Government consider the desirability of consulting State Governments before permitting the export of yarn ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Yes, if we consider that State Governments could offer us advice which would be useful.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA : That would arise only if you consulted the State Governments. In your reply you said that you did not consult any State Government before the export of yarn was permitted.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : As I said, the willingness to consult is there. But actually whether we will consult or not depends upon a number of factors. If we have to take a quick decision, we have to take a decision on our own. Secondly, if State Governments are interested, there is a case for consultation. There is no point in asking Government to relate this particular procedure to any particular incident that the hon. Member may have in mind.

SHRI C. P. PARIKH : Is it true that export of yarn was permitted only when the States did not lift the yarn ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : That is so, Sir.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : What steps have Government taken to see that yarn is available to the handloom weavers in the country?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The whole question has a background. Until very recently the matter was left almost to the nominees of States as indicated in my answer. But what has happened recently was that owing to a slump in the handloom trade, yarn was not lifted by the State Governments, and something had to be done. Therefore we went to the free market to a certain extent in regard to certain types of yarn which were costly. Yarn packed before April was comparatively more costly than yarn packed in May and there was no demand for the costlier packings and this had to be exported. But I can assure the House that within a measurable distance of time there is no possibility of there being any shortage of yarn in the country.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : Will the hon. Minister state what steps he is taking with a view to getting over the slump in handloom trade ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : That relates to the question I have answered previously—not to this particular one.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : May I know if this Government will send a Trade Delegation consisting of officials and non-officials with sufficient knowledge of handloom cloth trade to foreign countries, particularly to Aden, West Africa, Burma, Malaya and Ceylon, to explore the possibilities of marketing handloom cloth in those countries ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That question does not arise.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Will the Government give an assurance that the needs of the handloom weavers of the State will be first met before they allow the export of yarn to foreign countries ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : 1 That is the idea, Sir.

COFFEE BOARD

*2s>. SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: WUI the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a representation dated the 30th April 1952 from the Indian Coffee Board Employees Association requesting for the inclusion of elected labour representative on the Board ; and

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

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter will be considered at the appropriate time.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Any approximation that the hon. Minister will give to this appropriate time ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : Well, it all depends on when the appropriate time really arises. I am afraid I cannot project my ideas into the realm of conjecture.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : May I know, Sir, whether the principle of associating labour representatives on the Board is accepted or rejected by the Government?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : At the present moment the principle has been accepted. In the present constitution of the Board three persons representing labour, one each to be nominated in consultation with labour organisations by the Governments of Madras and Mysore and one to be nominated in consultation with labour organisations by the Chief Commissioner of Coorg is provided for. So the principle has been accepted, but whether we are conceding the principle of accepting the recommendations of the labour employed by the Coffee Board is a different matter altogether.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I know what form this consultation with the labour organisations has taken, and which are the labour organisations which Government have been consulting ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The consultations that I have indicated are in each case by the Government of Madras, by the Government of Mysore, and by the Chief Commissioner of Coorg. The body as such—the Coffee Board—is an autonomous body. For the nomination of three labour members, these three Governments have got to consult labour organisations. What methods they adopt and how they come to decisions, is a question to which I am unable to give an answer.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is it possible for the Hon. Minister to give such information at a later date after getting it from the respective Governments?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I can only try, but I cannot promise

TEA ENQUIRY BODY

*3o. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a representation was made to the Government on the 29th May last by the Darjeeling District Chin Kaman Mazdur Union requesting that a representative of the said Union be invited by the Tea Enquiry Body set up by the Government of India, so that the said Union may place its point of view before the latter body ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government on that representation ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) :
(a) Yes.

(6) It is under consideration.