

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : What steps have the Government taken to make this industry self-sufficient in this country ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : There are various steps which have been suggested by the Silk Board. The Mysore Government and the other State Governments like Kashmir and West Bengal have been taking steps for fostering the industry, and the Government have been off and on helping with financial grants.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Are the Government aware that there are certain factories there where small children on a large scale are employed and the Factories Act is not applied ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : If my hon. friend gives notice of a separate question, I shall find out how many children are in the factory.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : क्या उमत्री जो यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि काटेज इन्डस्ट्री बोर्ड का ध्यान इस ओर गया है ? अगर हाँ, तो इस ओर क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

[**SHRI J. R. KAPOOR :** Will the Deputy Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of the Cottage Industries Board has been drawn to it? If so, what steps have been taken in this direction ?]

श्री डी० पी० करमारकर : काटेज इन्डस्ट्री बोर्ड की पौलिसी जिस तरह दूसरे कोमीडटी के बारे में है, वही इसके लिए है दूसरी व्यवस्था नहीं है। काटेज इन्डस्ट्री बोर्ड ने यह काम सिल्क बोर्ड को सौंप दिया है इसलिये काटेज इन्डस्ट्री बोर्ड इस काम को नहीं देख रही है। जबकि इसके लिये एक अलग बोर्ड इस काम को देखने के लिये है, इसलिये यह सिर्फ काम बांटने का सवाल है।

[**SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR :** The policy of the Cottage Industries Board

in respect of this industries is the same as it is in the case of other industries and there is no different arrangement. The Cottage Industries Board has entrusted the work to the Silk Board; hence the former does not look to it. When a separate Board is in existence for looking into this work, the only question is that of distribution of work.]

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : इन दोनों संस्थाओं में इस व्यापार की उन्नति के लिये आपसी सहयोग होने की व्यवस्था है ?

[**SHRI J. R. KAPOOR :** Is there any possibility of mutual co-operation between these two organisations for the progress of this trade?]

DIVISIONAL OFFICE FOR RAILWAYS

*2. **SHRI R. BISWASROY :** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a divisional office for the railways is proposed to be established in Orissa ;

(b) if the answer is in the negative, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Traffic Office now at Khurdha Road is being abolished under the new scheme of regrouping; and

(d) if the answer is in the affirmative, the reasons for such a step ?

THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : (a) No.

(b) No new divisional office is being opened. A Regional Office is being opened for the ex-B.N.R. at Bilaspur which is from the organisational and operational points of view far superior to any place in Orissa.

(c) No.

(d) Question does not arise.

SHRI B. RATH : What are the conditions required to decide where a divisional office should be set up ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : This particular Railway—Eastern Railway—comprises five divisions of the former East Indian Railway and the whole of the former B. N. Railway. We are retaining all the divisions of the East Indian Railway as they are. We are putting a regional headquarters for the ex-B.N.R. at Bilaspur. It is a combination of both the regional and the divisional systems.

SILVER LOAN FROM U.S.A.

*3. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether India has taken a silver loan from the U.S.A.;

(b) if so, to what extent and under what terms; and

(c) what arrangement is made for the repayment of the loan ?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH) : (a) and (b). The undivided Government of India obtained a loan of 226 million ounces of fine silver from the U.S.A. The silver of equal fineness is to be returned within 5 years from the date the President of the U. S. A. declares the termination of the emergency.

(c) India's share of the liability is proposed to be met from the surplus stock of silver in India and silver extracted from the quarternary coins withdrawn from circulation.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know when was this loan exactly taken ? I want to know the date.

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : Between August 1943 and end of 1945.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, Sir, how the need for this loan arose ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : For coinage purposes.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, Sir, if the bullion market in India was consulted before this loan was taken ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : There was no need to consult the market here.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know if there is any adverse effect on the bullion market by taking such a huge loan of bullion from a foreign country ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : Not in the least because the silver was used for coinage purposes. It was not put in the market.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, Sir, what stocks the Government had when they took this loan ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : I want notice of that question, Sir.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, Sir, if this silver has to be paid in the form of dollars or bullion ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : The silver has to be returned in kind.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : If it is to be returned in kind, am I to understand that the silver stocks here have to be transferred to U.S.A. to the extent of this loan ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : That is right except that the liability to return the whole of the silver does not now rest on us. A share of the silver is to be returned by Pakistan.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : As far as our share is concerned, may I know what is the last date of repaying that loan ?

SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH : 20th April 1957.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Has any interest been charged on this loan or have any obligations been imposed upon India on this loan ?