

Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) how many import licences were granted to the 'Eastern Mercantile Corporation' of Cuttack in Orissa in 1950-51 and 1951-52 ;

(b) what were the goods for which and the countries in respect of which such licences were granted ;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa made a special recommendation to the Central Government for granting such licences in favour of the Eastern Mercantile Corporation ;

(d) who is the Managing Director of the Eastern Mercantile Corporation ;

(e) the names and designations of other members of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Mercantile Corporation ; and

(f) for how many years past the firm has been engaged in import and export business ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) to (f). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer already given to starred question No. 39.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Is it a fact that the S. P. E. Delhi had the premises of the Managing Director of the Eastern Mercantile Corporation searched under section 420 of the I. P. C. and under the Import-Export Rules, 1947, and if so, did this investigation relate to any of the import licences granted to this Corporation ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : If the hon. Member means that some action has been initiated by the Commerce and Industry Ministry in this regard, I can say that we have not done it.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Sir, the whole matter seems fishy and the particular urgency of it can well be appreciated from the fact that no less than three Members from Orissa have tabled questions on this subject. What we want to know from the hon. Minister is whether he would take the trouble to investigate the matter and let us know

as early as possible whether same import licences were granted to this firm which were alleged to have been sold. He can easily ascertain this from the office of the Chief Controller of Imports. That is not very difficult. What we want to impress here is that the matter is very urgent. It smells so fishy and we would request the hon. Minister to dispel whatever misapprehensions there may be.

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : I am grateful to the hon. Member for giving me this information and I can assure him and the House that I will do anything that is possible. But what the hon. Member has been saying is a suggestion for action.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF KRISHNA PENNAR PROJECTS

\*41. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether the Government of India have received any recommendation from the Madras Government that the Krishna Pennar Projects construction should be given preference over the Nandikonda Project ? If so, what decision has been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA) : The subject is under consideration and no decisions have so far been reached.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : May I know whether the Government have received a memorandum from the people of the districts concerned regarding the Nandikonda Project ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : There is nothing on record before me, of that nature. There has been no communication from the Government of Madras in this connection.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA : Has the recommendation been received by the Central Government here from the Madras Government to the effect that the Krishna Pennar Project should be given effect to or implemented and that preliminary investigation should start ?



SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : This is one of the schemes included in the supplementary list sent by the Government of Madras for inclusion in Part II of the Plan.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA : Is it the intention of the Central Government to carry on correspondence with the State Government on this question, when it is actually pending before the Khosla Committee ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : The matter has been considered by the Khosla Committee and the Committee has completed its work, though the Planning Commission has not yet received its report.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Has the Government received the Khosla Committee's Report ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : I have already answered that question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes. They have completed their report, but it has not yet been received by the Government.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM : Sir, is the Government aware that the Andhra people are against the execution of the Krishna Pennar Project ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : All the rival claims were presented before this Committee and all the materials made available to the Committee will also be available to the Planning Commission.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM : Is not a fact that the Krishna Pennar Project does not comply with the conditions laid down by the Planning Commission for the taking up of projects ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : All these matters are before the Committee.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Are the Government going to accept the Khosla Committee's Report ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : They have not yet received the report and they do not commit themselves as to what they are going to do.

SHRI P. V. NARAYANA : As the matter has been pending before the Khosla Committee is it proper for the Central Government to carry on correspondence or issue statements which may influence the Khosla Committee ?

(No reply.)

#### INCREASE IN INFLUX OF PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

\*42. SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has recently been an increase in the influx of displaced persons from East Pakistan ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the measures Government have taken to counteract this influx ?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR) : (a) There has been some increase recently in the movement of passengers, both Hindu and Muslim, from East Pakistan to West Bengal. In the other direction, that is from West Bengal to East Pakistan, this movement, both of Hindus and Muslims, has also increased. The figures relate to all passengers among whom are others than migrants also.

(b) The great majority of recent migrants from East Pakistan appear to be coming from two or three districts from where there are reports of deteriorating economic conditions. Government have not taken any measures to check the movement of traffic.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the hon. Minister explain whether by economic conditions he means that the economic conditions in Eastern Pakistan have deteriorated and that this is affecting Hindus and Muslims equally ? Or