

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** May I know the names of the directors of Messrs. Aluminium Cables Ltd.

**Shri Kanungo:** I have not got the information with me.

**State Trading Corporation**

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\*343. { **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:**

**Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has decided to open its branches abroad;

(b) if so, at what places; and

(c) how the work of the Corporation would be coordinated with the agencies of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and Indian Foreign Service Export Promotion Councils which are engaged in the same type of works?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The State Trading Corporation has decided to have its own arrangements to represent its interests in some of the European countries.

So far two cities have been selected and more are under consideration.

The functions of these offices will be to promote export trade of India especially where STC itself is participating in such international trade.

The relations between the Indian Trade Commissions and the STC offices will be of very close coordination of the activities with reference to promotion of foreign trade.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Since there will be close collaboration with the State Trading Corporation and the agencies mentioned in part (c) of the question, may I know what were the difficulties of the State Trading Corporation which led them to have their separate agency instead of dealing with the agencies of the Ministry

of Commerce and Industry and the Indian Foreign Service Export Promotion Councils?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The export trade councils in the embassies are concerned with various commodities whereas the State Trading Corporation, under the charter approved by this hon. House, has to do intensive salesmanship. Therefore, representatives of the State Trading Corporation alone can really enter into long-term arrangements and sell large quantities.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Are we to understand that the Government is encouraging each and every separate item to have its own agency outside and not with the STC?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is not each and every item. The State Trading Corporation is one of the major instruments for promoting foreign trade of this country. We are seeking to expand the activities of the STC if necessary even by having some more Corporations for specialised trades. Therefore, it is but natural that we should give the maximum freedom to the STC to have its agency.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** What has been the volume of trade as well as the increase in the value or amount between the trade in 1960-61 and 1961-62 by the State Trading Corporation?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It has gone up by about Rs. 25 crores last year.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Mudaliar Committee have recommended the replacement of the present system of *ad hoc* measures by a long-term export policy and, if so, whether the responsibility entrusted to the State Trading Corporation is a step towards the implementation of such a policy?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir. The Mudaliar Committee did recommend that the State Trading Corporation should be there, and it is our intention to go beyond even those recommendations to make State trading as

a principal instrument for the promotion of export trade.

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** May I know whether, since the formation of the State Trading Corporation, we have been able to maintain our connection with traditional markets, or, whether there are now some non-traditional items in our foreign trade which the STC has taken up and, if so, with what result?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The main purpose or the objective in the short run will be to promote non-traditional items in countries where our non-traditional goods are not going.

**Survey of Unemployment in Kerala**

\*344 { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
 { **Shri P. Kunhan:**

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey of unemployment in Kerala has been made in recent times; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the survey?

**The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi):** (a) No survey was conducted by the Government of India. However Kerala Government conducted a sample survey on unemployment in the State in January-February, 1962.

(b) The report has not yet been finalised.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** What was the employment in the coir industry at the beginning of the second Five Year Plan and now, at the beginning of the third Five Year Plan?

**Shri Hathi:** Unemployment in Kerala...

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** I am referring to coir.

**Shri Hathi:** I have not got that figure.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** May I know whether the Government is aware of

the fact that there is widespread and large-scale unemployment in the coir industry to the tune of nearly 30,000 workers—formerly, about 50,000 were employed and now it is only about 15,000—and, if so, may I know the steps, if any, that are taken by the Government to give relief to these unemployed?

**Shri Hathi:** The Government is aware of that fact. But, as the Government have now conducted a sample survey, we are awaiting the final data—the latest figures—from the Kerala Government.

**Shri P. Kunhan:** What is the total number of educated persons registered during the second Five Year Plan and the total number of persons employed permanently?

**Shri Hathi:** The number of persons registered with the employment exchanges, on the live register, as in March, 1962, is 1,40,881.

**Shri P. Kunhan:** The second part of my question has not been answered.

**Shri Hathi:** About the number of people employed, I have got the figures up to September, 1961. It is 2.09 lakhs in the public sector and 1.61 lakhs in the private sector.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** The Kerala Government has got a scheme for mechanising coir industry. When this mechanisation starts, may I know how many workers will be thrown out of employment?

**Shri Hathi:** As I said we have not got the latest figures; so, I cannot give it.

**Shri Maniyangadan:** May I know whether recently the National Institute of Applied Economic Research made a techno-economic survey of Kerala and in order to give employment to a large number of unemployed, suggested starting certain industries and some other measures? May I know whether Government is taking any steps to implement those recommendations?