

Shri Manubhai Shah: About Rs 35 lakhs worth of electrodes and welding apparatus come to this country, but not on account of bad quality, but because of the gap between demand and supply. We are trying to bridge that gap.

अमृतसर में विस्थापित व्यक्ति

६०२ श्री रघुनाथ सिंह क्या पुनर्वासित त्वा प्रत्येक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोहाट के विस्थापित व्यक्तियों के कुछ परिवार अब भी अमृतसर में शिविरो में पड़े हुये हैं और उनको बसाने के लिये अब तक कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है, और

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि कोहाट अबवा सीमान्त प्रादिम जाति क्षेत्रों से आये हुये शरणार्थी अब भी लाहौर के भारतीय शरणार्थी शिविर में रहने हैं और उनको अभी तक भारत नहीं भेजा गया है ?

पुनर्वासित त्वा प्रत्येक कार्य मंत्री (श्री मेहर बन्ध सन्त): (क) और (ख). कोहाट के कई परिवार अमृत सर और लाहौर के ट्राजिट कैम्पो में रह रहे हैं। लाहौर में रहने वाले परिवारों को भारत में लाकर बसाने और अमृतसर में पहले से आये हुये परिवारों को बसाने की हर भूमकित कोशिश की जा रही है।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह यह लोग कितने दिनों से लाहौर में पड़े हुये हैं और अब तक यह लोग हिन्दुस्तान क्यों नहीं लाये गये ?

श्री मेहर बन्ध सन्त. जहां तक कोहाट के शरणार्थी परिवारों का तात्लुक है वह शायद कोई ३६, ४० परिवार हैं और जिनमें कि रह रहे प्रादमियों की तादाद २०० के करीब है, कुछ तो पिछले साल से हैं और बहुत से इस साल से हैं लेकिन अभी बन्द एक दिनों में वह १८ या २० परिवार तो हिन्दुस्तान आ चुके हैं और २०, २२ परिवार लाहौर में बाकी रह गये हैं।

Foreign Trade Board

*903. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government of India have recently constituted a Foreign Trade Board, and

(b) if so, what are the duties and functions assigned to the Board?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Board is intended to bring about an integrated approach towards the country's commercial problems and to secure co-ordinated and cohesive working of the organisations dealing with matters having a bearing on the country's commerce. The Board is mainly concentrating on measures to promote exports and save foreign exchange.

Shri V. P. Nayar. May I know whether the Board will take into consideration the possibility of export with a long range view or whether it will have only the years immediately following in view?

Shri Satish Chandra. The purpose of the Board is mainly to co-ordinate the work of the various agencies which deal with various aspects of export and import trade so that the work may be done in a more cohesive and systematic manner.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Is it a fact that the Foreign Trade Board which met recently held the view that the targets fixed by the different Export promotion councils for the coming years was rather on the high side, whether they themselves have fixed any target and if so, what is the target that they have fixed?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Board has met only once so far. It considered some problems about export. It also looked into the recommendations of the various Export promotion councils. It has suggested a series of intensive studies of potential foreign markets where our goods can be

pushed. It has not yet had sufficient time to go into the details.

Shri Damani: May I know whether any persons from trade and industry have been taken in this Board? If not, are the Government thinking of taking some from trade and industry?

Shri Satish Chandra: This Board consists of the officers of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. A Joint Secretary is the Chairman. He has also been designated as the Director General of Foreign Trade. The Chief Controller of Exports and Imports, and the Managing Director of the State Trading Corporation are among the Members. The purpose of the Board is to co-ordinate the work of various departments and agencies of the Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Board proposes to enquire into the question of price fluctuations as a result of the operations of monopolists and also by cartels?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): The Board will go into all relevant questions.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether this Foreign Trade Board will take up the responsibility of covering export risk or whether the Government propose to have a different corporation altogether for export risk, and if so, when that corporation is coming into existence?

Shri Satish Chandra: An Export Risk Corporation is being set up for that purpose.

Needles for Hosiery Manufacture

*905. **Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of non-Sinker 18 Gauge G.M.F. Needles of Japanese make used in hosiery manufacture has been restricted or banned by Government;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Indian Manufactured Needles are unsuitable for use on knitting machines of Japanese origin which are widely used in South India;

(c) whether the Government of India have received any representation from the hosiery manufacturers of South India in this connection; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) During January-June, 1957 general licences were issued to Established Importers at 60% of past imports for 18 Gauge G.M.F. needles used in hosiery manufacture. The licences issued were not valid if the C.I.F. value was less than Rs. 100 for 1000 needles. During July-September '57, the issue of quota licences to all Established Importers has been suspended.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The representations are being enquired into and appropriate action will be taken while formulating policy for the next period.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Is it not a fact that representations were made that these needles are not being manufactured in India or that the ones that are being manufactured are totally unsuitable for use and as a result of the banning of import or non-granting of licences during the last period, the prices of needles that were available in India have gone up considerably?

Shri Manubhai Shah: If I may break up the question into three parts, firstly, it is not quite true that the quality of the present manufactures in this country is not up to the mark. There are certain other specific varieties for the hosiery industry which are not yet taken for local manufacture. Also, due to lack of imports to which the hon. Lady Member referred, there has been no appreciable or sizable increase in prices. What we are considering is whether representation