

### Export of Indian Pepper

\*136. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and the value of export of Indian pepper to the new foreign markets recently discovered, and

(b) the steps taken by Government to promote and augment this trade?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra). (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 38]

**Shri Keshava:** May we know if Government has taken any steps to investigate into the causes for the failure in some of the markets they have had in other countries before and whether any attempts have been made to improve them?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Our markets developed to a considerable extent during war time, because supplies from other countries were cut off. As production has again been established in several South-east Asian countries, they have become competitors in the world market.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether the demand from foreign countries is not greater than what we can meet?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The total world demand for pepper is about 70,000 tons, out of which India is producing only 27,000 tons.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know what exactly is the amount that they are going to spend for the development of pepper in the next Five Year Plan? I learn it is Rs 50 lakhs. Have they got schemes to the tune of Rs 50 lakhs from the various States?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for the development of pepper production and the question may be addressed to them.

**Shri Tangamani:** From the statement laid on the Table, we find that during 1955-56, the export to East

Germany was to the tune of Rs 125,000, but it has been reduced to Rs 44,000 in 1956-57. May I know the cause for this fall?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has said it is due to competition from other countries.

**Shri Tangamani:** So far as the other countries are concerned there has been a gradual increase.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The hon Member will note that the quantity exported in 1954-55 was only 18,000 tons and last year it was 15,000 tons. The fall from Rs 125,000 to Rs 44,000 represents the reduction in prices due to competition in the world market.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether this export trade will be taken over entirely by the State Trading Corporation?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** There is no such proposal except that trade with the East European countries is generally canalised through the State Trading Corporation.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** In view of the serious competition in the world market, may I know what special steps Government are taking to pepper up the popularity of Indian pepper?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Recently a development council has been set up for this purpose and it sent a delegation to Europe. We got some orders and there are possibilities of developing the trade further. Proper publicity campaign is proposed to be organised in USA and European countries for popularising Indian pepper.

### Trichur Radio Station

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\*137. { **Shri Warrior**  
**Shri Kunhan:**  
**Shri Maniyangadan:**

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to State:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the unsatisfactory nature of the service from the Trichur Station of All India Radio due to the lack of a studio attached to the Station, and

(b) whether Government will consider the desirability of establishing a studio at Trichur?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is, however no regular station of All India Radio at Trichur. The unsatisfactory nature of the service is not due to the transmitter, but due to bad condition of the telephone lines which carry the programme from Trivandrum to Trichur. Efforts are being made in co-operation with the P. & T. to improve the quality of these lines.

**Shri Warrior:** May I know whether there is any special telephone line connecting Kozhikode, Trivandrum and Trichur stations?

**Dr. Keskar:** No

**Shri Warrior:** May I know whether the Government have any idea of having special telephone lines?

**Dr. Keskar:** We would certainly like to have special telephones and we have placed demands for it. But, due to the paucity of materials with the Posts and Telegraphs, it is not certain whether we will be able to get such lines.

**Shri Warrior:** In view of the vagaries of the climate in that region, may I know whether the Government proposes to have a smaller studio at least in Trichur?

**Dr. Keskar:** It is not conducive to better programmes of co-ordination to have a number of studios at different places. Co-ordination of programmes becomes very difficult. However, I might inform the hon. Member that we are trying to see which location of the main studio would be best so as to give the best service to Kerala.

#### Safety Measures in Coal Mines

\*138. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No 234 on the 22nd May, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the High Power Commission to enquire into the safety measures in Coal Mines has since been appointed;

(b) if so, who are the members; and

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed for the submission of the report?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) No

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Last session, the Minister told us that he would move in the matter soon. May I know when a decision is likely to be taken?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Afterwards it was thought that it may not be necessary to appoint this Commission because safety measures in mines have been tightened up and the situation has improved considerably since then.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Does it mean that the Government have given up the idea of appointing a Commission?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Not completely given up. At least, at present, we do not propose to appoint one.

सेठ गोविन्द दास अग्नी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि इस प्रकार के किसी आयोग की आवश्यकता नहीं जान पड़ती कि क्या मंत्री जी इस सम्बन्ध में भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों की सरकारों से कोई लिख पत्र वर रहे हैं, और क्या भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों की सरकारें विशेषकर मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार, इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ कर रही हैं ?

श्री अश्विदास शर्मा जी नहीं, इस सम्बन्ध में राज्यों में कोई भलाह नहीं की गई है वर्य कि जहाँ तक माइल का मवाल है, लेबर मिनिस्ट्री के माफक ही उसका इन्तजाव किया जाता है। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि अग्नी इस कमिशन क बनाते वा बिचार नहीं है, क्योंकि जरूरी कार्यदे बना दिये गये हैं