

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार का इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का बिचार है ?

बाहिरिय मंत्री श्री कानूनगो) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ). प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Diplomatic Services

*244. { Shri Parulekar:
Shri S. V. Ramaswami:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of I.C.S. Officers in India's diplomatic services; and

(b) the number at present serving in European countries and the number serving in East Asian, South Asian and West Asian countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) 30.

(b) (i) In European countries 3
(ii) In South, East & West Asian countries 13

Indian Rare Earths Employees' Association

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*245. { Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri Warrior:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1292 on the 5th September, 1957 and state whether any decision has been taken on the demands submitted by the Indian Rare Earths Employees' Association?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): The matter is still before the Conciliation Officer (Central) Cochin.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In view of the fact that the dispute has been pending before the Conciliation Officer for the last one year, will the

Government be pleased to take steps to see that the dispute is settled at least now?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The Government are always taking adequate steps to see that these things are expedited.

State Trading Corporation (Private) Limited

*246. Shri N. E. Munsamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Trading Corporation sold sizable quantities of manganese ore to foreign countries at approximately \$49 per ton around August 1956 when the markets in this product were particularly firm and indicated higher rates; and

(b) whether the State Trading Corporation failed to cover itself for stocks against commitments?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Corporation sold in August 1956 sizable quantities of different grades of manganese ore to foreign countries at prices varying from 55 dollars to 29 dollars per ton. The sale price was determined on the basis of price levels and trends in overseas markets, the variation from package to package depending on the grade of ore and period of delivery.

(b) The State Trading Corporation have followed the normal business practice in regard to covering itself with stocks against commitments.

Shri N. E. Munsamy: As on the date of entering into the contract for the supply of manganese ore to foreign markets, may I know the market rate prevailing?

Shri Kanungo: For which grade? There are different grades. It all depends. In August the price varied from 55 to 29 Dollars.

Shri N. E. Munsamy: The grade for which the contract was entered into.