

Verification of Claims

*1526. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons who were mortgagees in possession of land for more than 60 years and whose claims were not at first entertained have got their claims verified subsequently; and

(b) how many claims for rehabilitation grants under the provisions of Rule 96 (2) (i) and (ii) of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1955 have been verified?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know whether any compensation has been paid to any of the persons mentioned in (a) and (b)?

Shri P. S. Naskar: As I said, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Hon. Member can give notice after that.

Export of Coffee

*1257. **Shri Jinachandran:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export price of coffee has gone down considerably and that only very small quantity could be sold during the second half of 1957;

(b) what steps Government are going to take to arrest this fall in price in view of the repercussions it will have on the internal market; and

(c) whether Government have any new proposal under consideration to change the present mode of export trade of coffee?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Export prices of coffee went down during the second half of 1957 and small quantities only were sold during the first two export sales in February 1958.

(b) Prices secured in export sales follow the trend of prices in the world market. Efforts are made to obtain as good a price as possible by judicious releases and acceptance of offers considering the world price at the time of sale.

(c) Proposals are under consideration for new methods of export sales so as to obtain better prices for coffee.

Shri Jinachandran: In view of the steep fall in the export price of coffee, will the Government consider giving a rebate of duty on coffee to enable the industry to have fair competition in the foreign markets?

Shri Kanungo: It is not as bad as that. We believe that by the new methods which we are contemplating, the export taking will rise, considering the continual lowering of prices in other countries.

Shri Ayyakannu: May I know whether the Government has considered the question of reducing the export price of coffee in the contracts entered into by the Coffee Board, as recommended by the Plantation Enquiry Committee?

Shri Kanungo: The Plantation Enquiry Committee has not exactly advised that way. But, as I said, we are considering various modifications in the export sales organisation. The actual sales, both internal and external, are controlled by the Board.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether it is a fact that a particular firm in Madras enjoys a monopoly of the coffee export, about 75 per cent?

Shri Kanungo: No, that is not correct. But the exporters who offer bids are limited. Therefore, we are trying to induce other exporters to enter the auction.

Shri Achar: Is the Government considering the question of sending a delegation of coffee interests to foreign countries to explore new markets?

Shri Kanungo: Our portion of the export is only 0.27 per cent of the world market. So, there is no point in sending a delegation.

River Feni

*1530. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Pakistan regarding river Feni; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Is it not a fact that during Maharaja's rule Tripura was enjoying the right over the river Feni in matters of export, import navigation, fishing etc. and the only condition was that the duties on exports, either from Tripura State or from Chittagong Hill Tracts should be divided between Tripura Government and British Government in the ratio of 10 annas and 6 annas in the rupee respectively? Does it exist even now? If not, why not?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: This question relates to an agreement regarding the boundary. This has nothing to do with export, import or price.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: The question is whether the Government of India is maintaining the rights that were enjoyed by the Tripura State over this river.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is the matter under dispute. That was the boundary before the partition. Midstream was regarded as the boundary between Chittagong Hill Tracts and Tripura. We claim midstream as

the boundary, whereas the Pakistan Government claims that the whole river is the boundary.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Was not that right being enjoyed by the Maharaja from time immemorial?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is exactly what we say. But the Pakistan Government does not admit it

प्रधान मंत्री की तिब्बत यात्रा

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*१५३३ { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीनी गणराज्य की सरकार ने उन्हें तिब्बत घाने का निमंत्रण दिया है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या यह निमंत्रण स्वीकार कर लिया गया है ?

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

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. But the date for the visit to Tibet has not been fixed as yet.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या तिब्बत यात्रा में केवल लामा जाने का निमंत्रण मिला है या कैलाश मानसरोवर तथा तिब्बत के दूसरे भागों में भी जाने का विचार है ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा बहोदशिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : इस मिलमिले में कैलाश मानसरोवर की कोई चर्चा नहीं हुई है।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : अभी कुछ दिनों पहले प्रधान मंत्री जी ने एक पत्रकार सम्मेलन अर्थात् प्रेस कांफरेंस में यह बताया था कि इस देश के कार्य भार में वे कुछ यिथिन हो रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या तिब्बत यात्रा का एक उद्देश्य यह भी है कि भारत की गर्मी से बच कर तिब्बत की ठंड में जा कर कुछ दिन विश्राम किया जाय ?