

tion. May I know what steps Government have so far taken to implement these schemes in the State of Assam, the home of mulberry silk?

**Shri Kanungo:** The home of mulberry silk is mainly Kashmir and Mysore, and not Assam.

**Shri Hem Barua:** It is a small home.

**Shri Dasappa:** It is indicated in the statement that the import of raw silk is centralised. May I know what is the difference between the import price of raw silk and the price at which it is sold to the users?

**Shri Kanungo:** I have not got the exact information with me just now, but the fact is that the price of silk has been steady for the last five years.

**Shrimati Il. Falchoudhuri:** Considering the fact that we are restricting all imports, why do we import artificial silk at all? It cannot help silk industry in any way.

**Shri Kanungo.** There is a fairly good export market for goods made out of artificial silk.

**State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Limited**

+

\*146. { **Shri Morarka:**  
**Shri Nathwani:**

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

(a) the nature of dispute for which the payment of Rs. 20 lakhs is not made by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Limited by way of sales tax; and

(b) whether the Corporation has collected this amount from its clients or not?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) The question whether sales tax is leviable on transactions between the producers

and the State Trading Corporation is under discussions.

(b) Sales tax has not been collected separately by the Corporation.

**Shri Morarka:** If ultimately it is decided that this sales tax is leviable, may I know whether it would be collected from the clients later on?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** No, Sir. As the hon. Member is connected with trade he knows very well that we cannot make recovery retrospectively of sales tax from anyone. What we have done is, as is put in the annual balance-sheet of account, Rs. 25 lakhs has been reserved for any contingent expenditure incurred on any tax incurred either of the Centre, State or local bodies.

#### Sulphur

\*147. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the proposal for the production of Sulphur from Pyrites, a project under the consideration of the National Industrial Development Corporation (Private) Ltd.;

(b) whether Government have got the details of the Pyrites deposits occurring in the Wynad (Malabar) area; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Indian Bureau of mines have so far found that Wynad deposits are mainly gold bearing quart veins with little sulphur.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government are aware that in the report of the Geological Survey by no less a person than Dr. M. S. Krishnan it is indicated that Wynad deposits are probably the only deposits

in the South from which Pyrites can be exploited for production of sulphur?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That is an expert's opinion, but at a practical level for economic working the percentage of sulphur available in Wynad deposits has been found to be uneconomic.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government are aware that Dr. Krishnan has also indicated the desirability of working gold and taking pyrites as a by-product in the same report?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir. As I indicated, as far as the working of gold deposits for recovery of sulphur is concerned the Wynad deposits are uneconomic. There are other deposits of iron pyrites where sulphur is as rich as 30 per cent and the Government is contemplating such exploitation.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** In view of the report of the expert, may I know whether Government have made any systematic study of pyrite deposits along with gold at Wynad?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** About Wynad, Sir, studies are continuously going on and trial borings are being done. There are other five areas in the country including the Amjor deposits where the likelihood of economic recovery of sulphur is there.

**Export Risks Insurance Corporation  
(Private) Ltd.**

+

\*148. } Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:  
      } Shri R. S. Tiwari:

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

(a) the number and total value of the policies sold by the Export Risks Insurance Corporation (Private) Ltd., since its inception;

(b) the countries to which exports risks covered by the policies sold by the Corporation;

(c) the principal lines of export trade covered by these policies; and

(d) the rate of premia charged and reasons for the variation, if any?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Number of policies up to 25th January, 1958.....49. Total value.....Rs. 2,02,60,000.

(b) and (c). It is not in public interest to disclose this information.

(d) It is not in public interest to disclose the rates to persons other than the proponents. The premium rates which the Corporation charges depend upon the following factors and change in any of these factors necessitate changes in the premium rates:—

(i) the types of risks and their causes;

(ii) the markets to which the goods are exported;

(iii) the types of goods;

(iv) the period for which the risks are covered;

(v) the past experience of the exporter and the spread of risks offered by him for insurance; and

(vi) the expenses of management.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know to what extent the Government are satisfied that their venture in export risks insurance business has proved successful and helped to expand the export trade?

**Shri Kanungo:** It is too early to assess it, because the Corporation has been working for hardly three months.

**Shri Ranga:** In reply to parts (b) and (c) of the question the hon. Minister has stated that it is not in public interest to disclose the information. May I know whether they would be prepared to give the information to those exporters themselves who would like to get themselves insured in this way?

**Shri Kanungo:** It is a practice that the rates are quoted to the proponents only, and there is a clause in the contract that they are not expected to disclose them except to their bankers.