

Government to stick to their earlier order of keeping it at Rs. 30 or Rs. 50 and meet their difficulties by themselves by paying to the dependents out of the loan advanced to Burma?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** That question has been answered. These restrictions were imposed because of the foreign exchange difficulties of the Burmese Government. We cannot ask the Burmese Government to change what they have decided.

**Mr. Speaker:** They have taken the loan and are not willing to pay.

**Shri Tyagi:** How much can Burmese residing in India remit to their country from here?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** I want notice for that.

#### Sixteenth Indian Labour Conference

\*1324. **Shri Tangamani** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to summary of proceedings of the XVI Indian Labour Conference laid on the Table on the 11th August, 1958 and lay a statement showing;

(a) the steps taken for the implementation of the decisions regarding Employees' State Insurance Scheme;

(b) the number of insured persons whose families have been extended facilities so far; and

(c) the time by which the enhanced statutory rate will be applied to employers?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):** (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 106.]

(b) 50,000.

(c) No decision has yet been taken.

**Shri Tangamani:** In the statement I find that the nine recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference which

met in Naini Tal are mentioned. May I know when the recommendations about paying the confinement fees of Rs. 30 and the maternity benefit and revising the waiting period will be considered

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Very soon.

**Shri Tangamani rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** He said, it will be considered.

**Shri Tangamani:** One of the important recommendations is that the employers' contribution must be raised to the original statutory level of 4.75 per cent. May I know when that will be considered?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** It was considered in the last meeting of the Corporation and it was decided not to put it into effect for the time being because the existing revenue is thought to be sufficient for the purpose.

**Shri Tangamani:** Has it come to the knowledge of the Government that under the present scheme with reduced contribution of employers, the employers contribute less than what the employees are contributing?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** It is a fact that at the present moment the employees have to pay more, but all the benefits go to the employees.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know...

**Mr. Speaker:** I have allowed four questions. Next Question.

#### Tea Trade with Iraq

\*1325. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of export of Indian Tea to Iraq; and

(b) the measures adopted to promote the export of common and medium grown varieties of Indian tea there?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) Exports of Indian teas to Iraq have been negligible.

(b) The Tea Board is conscious of the need for promotional work in the West Asian countries, but the initiative in studying the market has to be taken mainly by the tea-exporters.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** Is Government aware of the fact that Iraq used to have her entire supply of 30 million lbs. of tea, both low and medium, grown annually from Ceylon and since the fall of the Nuri regime the tea imports in Iraq have almost come to a standstill?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Exports from Ceylon are still continuing to Iraq. There has been some decline. There is also some possibility of exporting Indian tea. It all depends on a number of factors.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** In view of the fact that Iraq is under the influence of the United Arab Republic and thereby enters into the Arab payment Union, Ceylon is about to lose her tea trade with Iraq completely. May I know whether any steps have been taken to push our common teas in Iraq market?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The flow of trade does not always depend on the political changes in a particular country. I do not think I am competent enough to discuss that subject in connection with this question.

**Shri Morarka:** Is it a fact that due to recent recession in the export of tea, the Government is contemplating handing over tea exports to the State Trading Corporation?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** There is no such proposal.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** In view of the fact that all the Middle Eastern countries including Iraq prefer common teas, what steps will the Government take to increase the export of common teas to Iraq?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** It is not a question of our not wanting to export to Iraq in any substantial quantity. What we know is, Iraq wants good quality tea and not common tea. It has acquired a taste for a particular variety and colour of tea. It was buying from Indonesia before the Second World War. Then it began to purchase in Ceylon when sufficient supplies from Indonesia were not possible. If Indian exporters show some enterprise, they can certainly find a market in that country.

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** Whatever small quantity we were exporting to Iraq, is it a fact that because of the inferior quality, that export has now been reduced?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Export has not been reduced. The quantity is negligible. In fact, it has slightly increased during the last few months.

#### Forged Passports

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\*1326. { Shri Goray:  
Shri Jadhav:  
Shri Nath Pal:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang suspected of forging passports from Delhi; was arrested on the 11th June, 1957; and

(b) whether the investigations in this case have been completed?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The case is still under investigation.

**Shri Goray:** May I know why it has taken so long to investigate the case?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** Investigations are still in progress. The C.I.D. authorities concerned have ascertained that various seals, rubber stamps and other things are involved in this. They are taking some time to unravel this matter.