

Shri D. C. Sharma: It is seen from the statement that the activities of the State Trading Corporation will be extended. May I know if any tentative decision has been taken as to how much of this trade will be carried by the State Trading Corporation and how much by private trade?

Shri Satish Chandra: The recommendation is that the State Trading Corporation should be made more useful to the customer and this matter should be studied in greater detail. It does not say exactly what the hon. Member is saying referring to.

Shri Bahadur Singh: From the statement I find that we do not have Commercial Representatives in Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Hungary. May I know the reason for not sending any Commercial Representatives so far to these countries?

Shri Satish Chandra: The hon. Member will find from the statement that a Trade Representative has already been appointed to Poland; he has taken over his duties at Warsaw. Another is being posted to Belgrade shortly.

Shri Vajpayee: The statement says that some countries have shown their interest in the non-traditional items provided rupee funds are available. May I know if there is any likelihood of rupee funds being available in those countries?

Shri Satish Chandra: All these negotiations are being conducted with a view to making rupee funds available in India. But that is possible only by our importing commodities from these countries, the negotiations which are now taking place are based on the principle of balanced payments and almost equal imports and exports.

Shri Panigrahi: The statement reveals that there is a great demand for iron and manganese ores in East European countries. In view of the closure of large number of iron and manganese ore mines in this country

may I know whether we are exploring the possibilities of exporting these iron and manganese ores?

Shri Satish Chandra: We are already exporting iron and manganese ores to some of these countries. If it is possible to export more and there is greater demand there, we shall certainly look into it provided the exports are not a mere diversion of trade and we are able to do so in addition to what we are already exporting to other countries.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: May I know the personnel of the delegation and how much Government has spent on their tour?

Shri Satish Chandra: The delegation consisted of four representatives of tea industry, two representatives of the jute industry, one representative of the coir industry and a representative of the State Trading Corporation; and I went along with this delegation. The figures of the actual expenditure are not available just now, but total figure is less than a lakh.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The statement says that Government is examining the role and the possibilities of increasing the usefulness of the State Trading Corporation to the customers—the role and the usefulness. May I know in which direction Government is examining it?

Shri Satish Chandra: Many things were suggested to us, for instance, that the State Trading Corporation as an exporter should take responsibility for the quality of the goods and for their inspection and so on. That is normally being done by the agents of the S.T.C. at present. We shall look into these matters in detail in due course of time.

Indian Toys

*2. **Shri A. M. Tariq:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for Indian toys in foreign countries;

(b) if so, what types are in demand and in what countries; and

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to encourage the toy industry in the country and to centralise the marketing of toys?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Inquiries for educational, metal, wooden and other toys have been received from U.S.A., Canada, Saudi Arabia, Aden, Bahrein Islands and Switzerland.

(c) Government and the All India Handicrafts Board have taken various steps to develop the production marketing etc. of toys by granting financial assistance to State Governments, imparting of training to artisans, and establishment of research and design centres. Exhibitions and other media of publicity for marketing are organised by the Central Government. State Governments have been advised to sell such goods produced all over India through their main emporia.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५८ नमूना में हिन्दुस्तान के खिलौनों की नमूना शिपिंग लागू हुई है या नहीं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जहाँ और इंडस्ट्रीज की एग्जिबिशन लगायी गयी है वहाँ थोड़े से खिलौने ज़रूर रखे गये हैं लेकिन उन का अलग से कोई स्टाल नहीं बनाया गया है ।

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the amount of exports of these things to the foreign countries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Our exports are of the tune of fifteen to twenty lakhs a year as far as the separate figures for toys is concerned.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know if there are any Japanese experts in toy making who are giving training to our people in the country and, if so, what is the nature of the training and the names of the places at which it is given?

Shri Manubhai Shah: We have invited four experts. Most of their term is over and they have gone; we have taken considerable advantage of their expertise in improving our toys. Actually, at the present moment, to Gauhati in Assam four experts have again gone for cane and bamboo and they will also give training to make toys also there.

श्री अ० म० तारिक : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हुकूमत ने पेशेवर कोई ऐसी स्कीम है कि जिम के तहत हिन्दुस्तान की मुस्लिम रियामतों में खिलौने बनाने के जो कारखाने हैं उन का एक मरकज में जमा करके वसीयत माने पर खिलौने बनाने का काम किया जाये ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : ऐसी स्कीम तो ज़रूर है और १९ प्राइवेट कम ट्रेनिंग सेंटर हिन्दुस्तान के अलग अलग राज्यों में मौजूद हैं और नैडीकापट बोर्ड उन को और बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रहा है । जहाँ तक इस का एक मरकज बनाने का मतलब है, बोर्ड खुद ही मरकज का काम करता है और जैसा मैं ने स्टेटमेंट में बताया है हर राज्य को परामर्श दिया गया है कि वह अपने एम्पॉरिया पर न चीजों को खुद तरक्की दें ।

Shri Tangamani: May I know how much financial assistance has been given to the State Governments for this current period by the Handicrafts Board?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Rs. 2,76,558 last year.