

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a large question which I cannot immediately answer.

Shri Tangamani: The Prime Minister has said that State Governments are working out estimates of per capita income and five State Governments have computed such income. May we know whether the other State Governments are also working out their per capita income and if so, when we will be able to know about them?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot precisely say what each State Government is doing, but I think ultimately a satisfactory method will be for the Central Statistical Institute to do it with the co-operation of the States.

Shri Mahanty: I want to put two questions and I shall combine them. The first question is this. We understand from the reply of the Prime Minister that the State Governments are not co-operating with the Government of India in this particular regard. We would like to know which State Governments have not co-operated.

The second question is: Is it a fact that the per capita income in some States is much below the national average?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The answer to the second question is that some States are bound to be below the average and some above it. It is obvious. The average is between the two. As regards the second question, I did not mean to imply that there is some kind of active non-co-operation by the State Governments, not that; but sometimes there is lack of appreciation of the importance of something. They are delayed. That kind of thing happens. We want the figures; they also want them.

E.C.A.F.E.

*745. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is fact that the delegates of Japan, Indonesia and India to the fifth meeting of the

ECAFE Working Party have agreed to share with one another their technical know-how and research facilities in leather industry; and

(b) if so, the nature and extent of this co-operation?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The delegates of Japan, Indonesia and India expressed their willingness to share technical know-how and research facilities in leather industry not only with one another but also with other countries of the ECAFE region.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know what is the nature and work-out of the machinery of this distribution of technical know-how and how this will be distributed? How many representatives from Japan and Indonesia will come here to explore the possibility of increasing production of the leather industry?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The idea that was discussed at the ECAFE working party was broadly about policy matters—agreement for technical personnel exchange, exchange of results of various researches done throughout Asia and the training programmes for the leather industry. It does not at this stage involve as to how many technical personnel will be coming and what different nationalities they will comprise.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know what is the amount and value of raw hides exported from India to foreign countries, and the amount and value of finished leather goods imported into this country. Also what is the difference of export and import in relation to the foreign exchange?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This question does not arise out of the original question. But for the information of the hon. Member, I might say that the export value of raw hides and skins tanned or dressed is about Rs. 11 crores, depending on different varieties exported from year to year. Last year it was about Rs. 10½ crores. About export of leather goods they

are not classified as leather, but suitcases, belts and different types of leather goods that are manufactured. The total exports of leather, hides, skin and leather goods comes to Rs 22.5 crores. Import of only some special varieties of leather is permitted and is of small amount.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the fact that there is an abundance of raw material in the ECAFE region, with India as one of the important members, this question was discussed and the conference was of the opinion that there is an abundance of potentialities for increasing leather production from raw hides. Now from the ECAFE region, all the leather goes out in the shape of raw hides. May I know whether in view of the discussion that took place in the conference any decision or any material benefit accrued to us in the shape of any recommendation or otherwise?

Shri Manubhai Shah: About the first part of the rather long question, it is true that most of the exports from this region are in the form of raw hides. But it is not true as far as the second part of the concerned, because there are considerable exports of finished goods also. As far as the third part is concerned, a lot of technical collaboration is taking place even now. Japan, Indonesia and India are the three principal leather producing countries in this region excepting Pakistan. It is our desire and also hope that such technical co-operation between these different countries of Asia goes forward and we will have more and more advantage both in the internal production as well as export market through exchange of results of researches and experiments.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has Japan offered any list of subjects in which it has mastery in this industry to the ECAFE members?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Such lists are never submitted. It is all known as

to which country is better technically equipped in which branch of technical knowledge.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know whether there has been any increase or decrease in the export of raw hides from India?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is on the increase.

Radio Farm Forums

*746. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of the Scheme for starting Radio Farm Forums in the various regions of the country,

(b) whether any scheme has been evolved in Punjab with the co-operation of the State Government, and

(c) if so, when the Farm Forum will start functioning?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr Keskar): (a) The scheme for the extension of Radio Farm Forum programmes to the various States on the lines of the experimental scheme worked out from the Poona Station in 1956 is under consideration of the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know what is the reason for not starting this scheme in other parts of the country, as it was stated in the assessment report prepared by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences on the experimental UNESCO-AIR farm forum programme carried out in Poona that it showed a lot of success?

Dr Keskar: The reason for having it only in one station is that this experimental programme was carried out in co-operation with UNESCO as a first experiment, and as it was being done in co-operation with the Tata Institute. They found it more convenient to have it at Poona. But