

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the exact question?

Shri N. P. Sinha: There was a proposal to commercialise the Indian Government Railway collieries by the Government. I want to know whether that is still in contemplation or has been abandoned.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Perhaps the hon. Member is referring to investing the ownership of the Railway collieries with the Production Ministry instead of the Railway Ministry. Is it so?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Transferring from the Railway to the Commerce Ministry is not commercialisation.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Is it not the policy of the Government to nationalise these collieries?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Member to the Government of India Resolution on Industrial policy which was published in 1948.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question. General questions of policy which take a lot of time are not asked in the Question hour.

MIXTURE OF ART SILK AND PURE SILK

*1120. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that cloth made of the mixture of art silk and pure silk is sold in the market, as pure silk cloth; and

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to take any action to check this practice?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know whether Government will take early action to prevent this sort of cheating by the merchants and weavers so that there may not be any deterioration in the sericulture industry?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to state that the matter is under our consideration.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government has thought of any measures for differentiating between the different qualities

of silk and also whether they will devise any means of stamping these qualities?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. That is precisely the matter under our consideration. I should like to add that the matter is rendered a little difficult by the State Governments taking diametrically different views, some saying it will be useless and some saying it may be tried. That is our dilemma.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट के पास जो रिपोर्ट इस सम्बन्ध में आई है, उन से यह पता चलता है कि बाजार में असली रेशम की जगह पर इस तरह का नकली रेशम कितने प्रति शत बेचा जा रहा है ?

श्री करमरकर : फ्रीसदी डिटरमिन करना और बतलाना तो इस वक्त कठिन है, हां यह बात सत्य है कि ऐसी बात बाजार में चलती है और इस को रोकना भी मुश्किल की बात है ।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि इस समय जो रेशम असली के रूप में बाजार में बेचा जाता है उस में ज्यादातर मिलावट होती है और असली रेशम बाजार में बहुत कम है ?

श्री करमरकर : बाजार में प्योर सिल्क भी आता है और जो आर्ट सिल्क का मिक्सचर होता है वह भी आता है ।

श्री मुनमुनबाला : मिनिस्टर साहब ने जवाब दिया कि उन की दृष्टिकत इसलिये बढ़ गई है कि हर स्टेट की राय इस सम्बन्ध में अलग अलग है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि बिहार स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की इस सम्बन्ध में क्या राय है ?

श्री करमरकर : मैं देख लूंगा और फिर आप को बतलाऊंगा, वैसे बिहार की राय इस के खतफा है ।

श्री झुनझुनवाला : बिहार की राय कौन सी चीज के खिलाफ है ?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall find out. It will take time.

श्री झुनझुनवाला : खिलाफ के क्या मानी, वह क्या दोनों का मिक्सचर बेचने देना चाहते हैं या भलग भलग चाहते हैं ?

Shri Karmarkar: I understand that they are favourable for legislation.

श्री झुनझुनवाला : मैं साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ। मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि बिहार गवर्नमेंट की क्या राय है कि इस तरह से जो यह मिक्सचर चल रहा है, यह इसी तरह से चले, या वह भलग बनाया जाय और उस की प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय।

श्री करमरकर : सब लोगों की राय यही है कि ऐसा मिक्सचर नहीं चलना चाहिये, और पब्लिक को इस से नुकसान नहीं पहुंचना चाहिये, इस प्रैक्टिस को रोकने के लिये क्या इफेक्टिव रेमिडी हो सकती है, इस के बारे में आपस में मतभेद है। माननीय सदस्यों की इनफार्मेशन के लिये मैं बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि : The Bihar Government is favouring legislation in this matter.

श्री आर० एन० सिंह : उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार की इस विषय में क्या राय है ?

Shri Karmarkar: The Government of the U. P. is also of the opinion that legislative measures as contemplated will not be practical as a major portion of this silk is manufactured as a handloom industry.

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that each State Government is following a different policy and that is the dilemma of the Government. May I know, in view of this fact, whether the Central Government is trying to evolve a uniform policy in this matter?

Shri Karmarkar: That is precisely what we are trying. The matter is under our very serious consideration.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Government can direct the manufacturers of silk to stamp the quality either real or mixed or art silk, and if so, under what provision or rule?

Shri Karmarkar: That is precisely the matter under consideration. If after consideration, we feel necessary, then Parliament will have to give us the necessary powers. We have no doubt that Parliament will do so.

A. I. R. NEWS CORRESPONDENTS

*1121. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) how many news correspondents have been engaged by A.I.R. and which are their headquarters;

(b) whether there are itinerant news-correspondents and if so, how many; and

(c) whether there is any news-correspondent for the State of Mysore?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 1.]

(b) All the Correspondents are itinerant.

(c) No, Sir. The Correspondent located at Madras covers news items of importance in Mysore State.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know whether these correspondents supply news to the regional areas also?

Dr. Keskar: Whatever news these correspondents gather is sent to the central headquarters and if it is of local importance, it is also given to the local stations.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know whether Government have got any agency other than these correspondents to supply them with regional news?

Dr. Keskar: There are the news agencies and also local Government sources.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether it is a fact that a large number of staff in the A.I.R. are removed from service for the reason that they have not passed certain examinations though they were entertained during the war time?