

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Government have no information.

(b) and (c). The National Metallurgical Laboratory is understood to be making some experiments.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Imperial Chemical Industries has any experimental plant at present?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government have no information.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what was the reason for the closing down of the Indian Titanium Factory at Trivandrum last year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Because of lack of sale of the products manufactured by the factory, namely titanium dioxide.

Shri Matthen: Have the Government been negotiating with the national head of the U.S.A. for the establishment of a factory for the manufacture of titanium or titanium products?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM WESTERN GERMANY

*448. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the technical assistance received for the development of Indian Industries from Western Germany since the renewal of trade arrangements with that country?

(b) To which currency group does Western Germany belong at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) The trade arrangement with Western Germany does not provide for any specified technical assistance but mentions in a general way, that the German Authorities will use their good offices so that German companies, firms and industrialists may place their experience at the disposal of the Indian Government, and Indian Industries in the field. A statement showing some of the forms of technical assistance received from Western Germany is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 3.]

(b) Soft currency.

Shri S. C. Samanta: From the statement supplied, I find that in Group B, from 1st Novem-

ber 1951 to 31st October, 1952, nine candidates were sent to Western Germany for training in German industries. May I know in which industries these men have been trained, and whether they have come back and started any industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice, Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I find from the statement that 23 candidates had been sent for studies in German universities and institutions. May I know whether they have been sent for general education or any technical education?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I have to ask for notice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That does not arise out of this, I think.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The statement contains this

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The statement may contain many things. Hereafter hon. Members will confine themselves in their supplementaries only to the questions asked.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to part (b), may I know whether there is any territorial discrimination against other countries which belong to the same currency group as we do?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot understand the import of the question.

TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH CHINA AND U. S. S. R.

*449. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government of India to negotiate a long-term trade agreement with the Peoples Republic of China and the Soviet Union?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No steps have been taken by the Government of India to negotiate a long-term trade agreement either with the Peoples' Republic of China or with the Soviet Union, as it is the Government's view that, since their trade policies are multilateral and non-destinational, conclusion of specific trade agreements is not necessary to facilitate the smooth flow of trade. Lack of a trade agreement with the countries in question has not stood in the way of Government obtaining their requirements from China and the U.S.S.R. under barter or cash transactions or in the way of private trade generally.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is it true that in the recent ECAFE conference, to which our hon. Minister of Commerce led the Indian delegation, the Soviet Government made an offer to supply us capital goods on a barter basis?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I shall find out from my hon. colleague, whether that was so.

Shri Gopala Rao: Are the Government aware of the fact that there are huge stocks of tobacco lying, due to the refusal of the Government to allow export to Japan, China and other countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I shall have to ask for notice.

Shri Gopala Rao: Has the hon. Minister received any representation from tobacco merchants from various States in the country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have not.

Shri K. K. Basu: The hon. Minister of Commerce is here. I do not know whether he can answer that question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister of Commerce can answer that question.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): What question? If the hon. Member repeats that question, I shall answer.

Shri K. K. Basu: The question was whether in the recent ECAFE conference, the Soviet delegation made an offer to supply us with capital goods on barter basis, whether it is true, and if so what steps we have taken on that?

Shri Karmarkar: There was no such offer, and it was not relevant for them to make any such offer at this conference.

Shri K. K. Basu: Will the hon. Minister inquire from the Department, whether any report to the effect that an offer has been made was published in the newspapers in India?

Shri Karmarkar: In the ECAFE, if there was any such report, it was a wrong report.

MANUFACTURE OF QUINK

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

(a) whether capital issue has been allowed by the Government of India for an Indian Company with the participation of the Parker Inc. (Ink and

Pen manufacturers of United States) at Madras; and

(b) whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a list of Directors of this company as on date of Capital Issue, with the changes in the Directors, if any, thereafter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by me to Starred Question No. 409A by Shri Nambiar on the 18th November, 1952.

Shri V. P. Nayar: On a point of submission, Sir. When such answers are given, and when we do not know what the answers would be, till they are read out, it is not possible for us to make a reference to the previous answers and then put supplementaries. I put a question to the hon. Minister, and he refers me to the answer which he gave on a previous occasion. Are we to go to the Library, refer to the answer and return for our supplementary? At least, let him give the substance of what that answer was.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question was exactly the same.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Was the question exactly the same? Is it during this session or the last session, that the same question was put and the answer was given?

Shri Chattopadhyaya: If they give the same answers again, that will be helpful.

Shri Punnoose: May I know why this was admitted in that case?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, Order. I must say that the practice followed is this. Whenever it is not very old, it is not usually answered,—when it was answered either in this session or just in the previous session. If there has not been any change for the hon. Minister to give a different answer, it is usual to say that the answer has been given already in answer to question No. so and so. If hon. Members who are new have forgotten that, I would only suggest that whenever hereafter hon. Ministers refer to the previous answers, given during the previous session or this session, they may, as they place statements in the Notice Office, give a statement to the effect that hon. Members may refer to such and such a question, the answer for which was given on such and such a day. That will fac-