

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** None, Sir.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know what amount of claims has been dismissed?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** No claims have yet been dismissed out of the amount that I have indicated.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** May I know whether there are any claims which have been admitted and which have not been paid?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** No, Sir.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** Is it a fact that some of the claims which have been verified by the Pakistan Government have not yet been paid or adjusted?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It is rather a general question and if any specific claim is indicated I can make enquiries. But on the basis of the information available with me, I can say that there is no claim which has been verified by the Pakistan Government, and has not yet been paid.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Can Government give any idea as to the claim made against the Pakistan Government—I mean the total claim made in this regard—or has no claim been made so far?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Obviously, that position will arise after payments have been made at our end.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that claims were sent to Pakistan for verification?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Yes, Sir.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Have you got replies from Pakistan?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** To some, but not to all.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Out of the claims sent to them for verification, could we know what amount they have verified?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Actually, there appears to be some confusion on that point. It is not mainly for Governments to verify, but the verification has to take place through certain officers there, and in certain cases we can send our officers there to look up the records and verify, for themselves as to the existing state of affairs.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Are Government aware that certain contractors of goods who were asked to supply goods to stations now in Pakistan have not been paid, although the orders were placed by the then Government of India and Pakistan which was one?...

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I won't be surprised if there is such a case.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** If so, what arrangements are Government going to make, to make payments to such claimants?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** For that also, a decision has been taken; with regard to such contractual liabilities the same procedure is applicable, and they have to register their claims before a particular date, and such of them as have already registered their claims will be considered in consultation with the authorities in Pakistan.

**Shri Gidwani:** The Minister said that they are getting every facility from Pakistan to go and examine the records; if so, why has there been so much delay in settling all the claims so far?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I did not say that they give all the facilities for going there.

**Shri Gidwani:** You said that the officers can go and verify the records. You did say that. That is why, I want to know why there should have been so much delay. After all, it is now nearly five and a half years.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The facilities are not always available, and all times are not opportune for sending out officers.

#### PAPER MANUFACTURE FROM SABAI GRASS

\*1174. **Shri Jajwara:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a large quantity of Sabai Grass is produced in damini areas of Santhal Parganas in Bihar?

(b) Is there any scheme to revive paper-making from this grass as a cottage industry?

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

(b) Yes.

**Shri Jajwara:** Are Government aware that production of sabai grass in this area is gradually going down? if so, what is the reason therefor?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Our information is otherwise. In 1951-52 it went up to 1 lakh and some 75 thousand tons as against only 95 thousand tons in 1950-51.

**Shri Jajwari:** Have Government given any consideration to this industry as a cottage industry of the aboriginal people — the *pahariyas* — who number several lakhs?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The *pahariyas* are already helped. We have guaranteed them an off-take of 2 lakh maunds at the rate of seven annas per maund. The prices are guaranteed and the quantity is also guaranteed, although the quantity they supply is less. So their interests are well safeguarded.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Have Government taken into consideration the figures of previous years? If they have not, will they kindly do so, because this is a matter of vital importance and I can tell the hon. Minister from my personal knowledge that the production is going down.

**Shri Karmarkar:** In view of the hon. Member's statement, I shall try to find out. My information at the moment is otherwise.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Has the guaranteed price for sabai grass been extended to the entire Chota Nagpur?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I thought I said about the Santhal Parganas. About Chota Nagpur I shall find out.

**डा० जाटव-बीर :** क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि इन पहाड़ियों की बस्ती में धाग लग गई थी और उस से एक हजार मन धास जल गई थी? अगर सरकार को यह मालूम है तो क्या वह इस की इन्कवायरी करायेगी कि किसी इन्टरेस्टेड पार्टी ने तो यह काम नहीं किया ?

**श्री करमरकर :** अब तक ऐसी खबर नहीं मिली है। लेकिन अगर ऐसा होता भी है तो भी कुल धास की कीमत और उस के लाने का खर्च उन पहाड़ियों को दी जायेगी।

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Is the sabai grass taken over by the Government of India, or have they made arrangements with paper mills to take it

over? The hon. Minister just said that they have arranged for an off-take of two lakhs. Or is it like this: that sabai growers get a guaranteed price for a guaranteed quantity?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Now Government owns the grass. Under the arrangement we had in successive years tried to give it to paper mills. For one year we gave it to Titagur Paper Mills and for one year we gave it to Bengal Paper Mills. But during the current year no paper mill was coming up. Therefore, we gave it to the highest bidder, namely Rajkumar Singh.

**Shri Soren:** Is it a fact that production has deteriorated due to Government taking over the sabai grass concern from the *pahariyas*?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I promised to find out whether it has gone down. As I told the House a little earlier, Government are dealing with the matter themselves direct.

#### BAN ON EXPORTS OF SCRAP MICA

\*1175. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the decision arrived at on the recommendations of the Mica Advisory Committee regarding the proposed ban on exports of scrap mica?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The recommendation of the Mica Advisory Committee is still under the consideration of Government.

**Shri Nanadas:** Do Government still believe that scrap mica is being used as a substitute for split mica and is affecting the export of split mica?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is a matter of opinion.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know what percentage of mica produced in the country is exported and what percentage is consumed by the indigenous industries?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The question relates to scrap mica.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Is there any proposal before Government to start production of micanite out of the huge quantities of waste mica which is not an exportable commodity at present?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe there is some proposal. I cannot be very definite unless a question is put down.