

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the details of such grants made in 1950 and 1951 and made or offered in 1952?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes. Contributions have been made in the past to the International Tea Market Expansion Board for the promotion of sale of tea in overseas countries.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

India's contribution to the International Tea Market Expansion Board.

| Year (1st October to 30th Sept.) | Amount (Rs.) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1949-50 | 56,17,218 |
| 1950-51 | 36,73,469 |
| 1951-52 | 61,23,400 |

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the decline in the exports of coir and the consequent unemployment of lakhs of people in Travancore-Cochin State, may I know Sir whether Government have taken any steps for the promotion of the sale of coir and coir goods such as mats and mattings in foreign countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir, we have asked all our Trade Commissioners to bestow some attention to this matter, and I am glad to say that the position is not as bad as it was about eight or nine months back. We include coir in the trade agreements. I would also like to inform the hon. Member that it is proposed to bring before this House a Bill in order to set up a statutory Coir Board to deal with all problems relating to coir, both the sale of coir internally and abroad.

Shri V. P. Nayar: A part from writing to our various Trade Commissioners is concerned, may I know whether any actual grant has been made for the promotion of sale of coir?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If a grant has been made to any external organisation it would have found a place in the statement I have placed on the Table of the House.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Arising out of the statement laid on the Table, may I

know the machinery through which the Rs. 61 and odd lakhs are spent?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The International Tea Market Expansion Board.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know who are the members of the Board for carrying on this propaganda campaign for selling tea in the United States and whether Government is making some contribution to that organisation for carrying on propaganda?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid my hon. friend had missed the answers which were given on the floor of the House. A Tea Council has been set up in the United States in collaboration with the tea trade in the United States and with the Governments of Indonesia and Ceylon. The membership of the Board will be 6 Members for the countries who participate in it financially and 6 Members of the tea trade. The contribution that India would give under the present arrangement will be 450,000 dollars.

PURCHASE OF KHADI BY GOVERNMENT

*331. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the policy of Government regarding the purchase of Khadi for their cloth requirements?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The policy of Government is to encourage the use of khadi for Government purposes as far as this is feasible consistently with the specialised needs of the different services and a reasonable degree of economy.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the value of the annual cloth requirements of the Central Government and the extent to which these requirements are met from Khadi.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri Dabhi: May I know what prevents Government from meeting most of their cloth requirements from khadi?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If any reasons do operate, Sir, against the use of khadi to the extent my hon. friend wants, the reasons have been stated in the answer to the question.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I know what steps Government are taking to encourage the produce and use of khadi?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question is coming later but I could tell the hon. Member that we have constituted an organisation for this purpose. The organisation has started working. Certain grants have been made. They have made certain proposals. We do propose to place at their disposal larger funds for the year 1953-54 and my hon. friend may be patient for some time. Government are serious in their desire to encourage *khadi*.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: Is there any intention of purchasing handloom cloth?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This relates to *khadi*. That question does not arise.

Shri Kelappan: Will the hon. Minister give the figures of the purchase of *khadi* by the Central Government for the last three years?

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

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether only the *chaprasis* of the Government of India were compelled to wear these clothes and not any other officers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Also the Ministers.

GIRIDIH GROUP OF COLLIERIES
(RETRENCHMENT)

*332. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 2,000 workers from Giridih group of collieries are going to be retrenched in the near future?

(b) Have Government received any representation and if so, on what date?

(c) Is it a fact that Bengal and Bihar colliery owners are parties to a dispute already referred to the Industrial Tribunal at Dhanbad?

(d) Is it a fact that a "Fact Finding Committee" was appointed and if so, what are its findings with regard to the retrenchment mentioned in part (a) above?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, on 2nd January, 1953 from Dr. P. B. Gupta in addition to other representations from the workers.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes. The findings of the "Fact Finding Committee" are as follows:—

(1) The total number of surplus labour and staff in Giridih group of collieries at present is 2,457.

(2) More labour will be rendered surplus each year due to exhaustion of further working areas in the mines.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION AT HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD

*333. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state what is the cost of construction of a ship at Visakhapatnam and the cost in U.K.?

(b) Is it a fact that the cost of construction of a ship at Visakhapatnam is twenty-two lakhs more than that in U.K.?

(c) Have Scindias fulfilled the orders placed with them in 1950 for three cargo vessels as well as the orders placed in August 1951?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b). The cost of a ship depends on its size and the type of machinery used. On the basis of a ship of 8,000 dead weight tons of the type built so far at the Shipyard, the present cost of construction in U.K. is understood to be about Rs. 59 lakhs while in Visakhapatnam it will cost about Rs. 76 lakhs.

(c) The six ships ordered by Government were delivered on the following dates: the first three by Scindias and the next three by the Hindustan Shipyard Limited in which Scindias are partners.

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| S.S. Jalapadma | 18-1-51 |
| S.S. Jalapalaka | 3-4-51 |
| S.S. Ja'aputra | 2-7-51 |
| S.S. Jag Rani | 9-6-52 |
| S.S. Jalapratap | 9-8-52 |
| S.S. Jalapushpa | 17-10-52 |

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I know the emoluments available to the French firm of naval experts which is running the yard and also the commission available to that firm for building ships?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I submit Sir, that the question does not arise out of this but if the Chair admits it, I shall try to answer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri K. C. Reddy: The Agreement with the French Company runs into several pages and several items are covered. The hon. Member wants to know what emoluments are paid to the experts of this French Company. For the efficient working of the Hindustan Ship yard, there are a few ex-