

**Shri Buragohain:** This is a hypothetical question. I believe such of the offices as could be sent out from Delhi can be located at Simla.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know what use will be made of the surplus residential accommodation in Simla?

**Shri Buragohain:** If we succeed in persuading offices to move to Simla, certain residential accommodation can be made available for use by these offices.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** What particular use will be made of the residence of the Viceroy and the Governor-General of India?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Is there any proposal to convert this Viceregal lodge into a sanatorium or college?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

#### SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

\*1635. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether surgical instruments are manufactured in the Punjab;

(b) whether these instruments can compete in price and quality with foreign instruments; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is understood that they do not.

(c) The reasons are understood to be amongst others lack of proper raw materials, proper heat treatment and nickel plating.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know what are the Centres for the manufacture of these instruments?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe, Punjab, Sir.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Are they carried on a cottage industry basis?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It might be; but not strictly in cottages.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Is it a fact that Batala used to be a famous centre and may I know what steps have been taken to rehabilitate this industry in Batala in Gurdaspur district?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May be; my information is derived from the

Government of Punjab. They are opening a development centre at Sonapat.

#### TOBACCO EXPORT TRADE

\*1636. **Shri C. R. Chowdary:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the value in rupees of our annual exports in tobacco in the years 1950 to 1953, State-wise?

(b) What steps had been taken to expand the export trade in tobacco in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(c) Have Government sent any trade delegation either to the west or to the east to study the scope for expansion of our tobacco trade?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) and (b). Attention is invited to reply given to parts (a) and (c) of Unstarred Question No. 557 on 16th March, 1953 and to part (a) of Starred Question No. 594 on 9th March, 1953. Figures for 1953 are not yet available. Statistics of exports are not compiled according to the area of production.

(c) No, Sir.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** May I know what steps have been taken to collect data as to the quantity of tobacco, out of the 1952 crop, still lying in the godowns for want of marketing facilities, external and internal?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I shall consult my esteemed colleague in the Food and Agriculture Ministry and let the hon. Member know.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether there are any restrictions as regards the quantity of export of tobacco from this country?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I do not think so; I should like to verify.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** May I know what special interest is taken to see that the stocks lying in the godowns in the various places, of the 1952 crop, are disposed of in the internal or external market?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The point is this. So far as general promotion of export of tobacco is concerned, we are trying to do what we can through the machinery that we have at our disposal. Tobacco forms part of practically every trade agreement that we have concluded with foreign countries. The precise nature of the steps that could be taken to

relieve the pressure now existing in the tobacco trade is a matter to be considered. Undoubtedly, it is true that the 1952 exports are less than the exports in 1951, and very possibly that is due to the complaints that we have received about the people who are importing this tobacco not appreciating its quality. If my hon. friend refers to the reply to unstarred question No. 557 dated 16th March, furnished by the Food and Agriculture Ministry, he will understand that certain steps are being taken. We are considering this matter in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Ministry. I can assure the hon. Member that both the Food and Agriculture Ministry and the Commerce Ministry will do what they can for this particular industry.

**Shri S. V. L. Narasimham:** In view of the statement laid before the House, may I know whether the I. L. T. D. Co. and other big tobacco concerns in Guntur district have abstained from participating in the auctions held at the market yards of the Tobacco Committee.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I should like to have notice.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** May I know whether the Government intend to send out a delegation to study the market conditions in various countries abroad?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** No such proposal has come from the concerned interests. Specifically if any such proposal comes, we will consider it favourably.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Is it not a fact that there is an Officer in the U. K. or Paris,—I do not exactly know where he is—for seeing that the export facilities for Indian tobacco are improved? May I know whether that officer has been kept informed about the large stocks of 1952 tobacco still lying?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am not sure whether there is an officer attached now to the High Commissioner. But, I think the High Commissioner's office is adequately staffed to look after our tobacco interests as well. As I said, amongst other reasons, one of the reasons for the falling off of exports is the general complaint that we have received about the quality. These matters are being considered. As I said, if any specific representation comes from the industry, the Food and Agriculture Ministry and the Commerce and Industry Ministry will certainly do what they can.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Is it a fact that the higher grade tobacco exported to foreign markets is called Virginia tobacco and the lower grades that are exported are called Indian tobacco in the foreign markets?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I should like to have notice to give a precise answer.

**Shri Matthen:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that Jaffna tobacco is imported into India and can he not help the Indian tobacco by stopping that?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That is a different question. A question has been tabled and an answer given.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know the countries to which we export our tobacco?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** If I could turn over the notes, I can give that information. I would prefer to be more precise. If the hon. Member can put down a question, the information can be supplied. He can get it from the sea-borne trade publications.

#### WAR REPARATIONS FROM GERMANY

\*1637. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what India has got as her share of war (World War II) reparations from Germany?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** Reparations so far received from Germany comprise—

(A) German external assets within the jurisdiction of India, proceeds of liquidation of German assets in neutral and ex-enemy countries and U.S.S.R. reciprocal deliveries.

(B) Industrial plants and other capital equipment removed from Germany. In this connection I would invite the Hon'ble Member's attention to the reply given by the Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply to Unstarred Question No. 1045 by Shri L. J. Singh on the 15th April, 1953 in the House of the People. 10,431 items of general purposes machine tools and other industrial Capital Equipment have been received by India from Germany as reparations.

The total monetary value of these reparations is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 10 crores.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the machine-tools and industrial equipment that has been received into India, also included Pakistan's