

Shri Buragohain: The Chairman wrote to about 30 Members of Parliament—of both Houses—and some replies have been received. The Committee has also examined a number of hon. members of Parliament who have evinced interest in this problem. With regard to State Governments, about 15 State Governments have sent in their replies to our questionnaire.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, by what time the labours of the Committee are likely to be completed?

Shri Buragohain: The Committee hopes to finish the evidence part of its work towards the end of next month and would be working on its report after that, and it hopes to finish its labours in about three or four months.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, the names of organisations whose representatives have been examined by this Committee so far?

Shri Buragohain: As many as 40 trade associations have sent in their replies and a few representatives have been examined. So far, apart from Delhi, the Committee has visited only Kanpur and there they met the representatives of two trade associations. With regard to representatives of other trade associations, the Committee proposes to examine them in Delhi and also in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, whether the Committee adopted any tender system and whether any Member of Parliament recommended any company or particular firm?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Tender system? The Committee is going into the whole question of tender, direct purchase and so on. Next question.

SURVEY OF INSTALLED CAPACITY OF INDUSTRIES

*1134. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Committee of Officials and Private Engineers to

undertake a survey of installed capacity of industries in this country has been set up;

(b) by what time the Committee is likely to submit their report; and

(c) whether in the case of industries, such as the cotton textiles, reports in respect of which prepared by technical Committees are available along with recommendations, Government contemplate taking any action even before this proposed Committee or any other Government Committee submit their reports?

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

(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) It is expected that the Committee will be sending its report and recommendations to Government from time to time.

(c) The appointment of a Committee of this nature does not ban Governmental action in any direction.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if it does not ban any action on the part of Government, and if any action has actually been taken on this?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: On which?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: On cotton textiles.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is a different question. We have a Textile Enquiry Committee now sitting. I do not think it is possible for Government to take any action in regard to the textile industry, based either on the report of the working committee or any other committee of that nature until we have received the report of the Textile Enquiry Committee.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: From statistics in regard to selected industries I find that most of the industries, whether private or Government, are running at much below the installed capacity. May I know what steps Government are taking to work them to full capacity?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, any general remark of that nature does not lead us anywhere. If the hon. Member is interested in any particular industry or groups of industry, I might be able to help him.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if this Committee will be competent to examine the working capacity of Government industries also, and if so, whether they are doing it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, the work of this Committee is of an omnibus nature. It is intended that the work of this Committee would help Government to assess the industrial potential in this country and to make their plans. The Committee will be competent to go into any matter which they consider necessary.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What are the terms of reference of the Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am calling Mr. Heda.

Shri Heda: In view of the recent trends regarding a solution of the unemployment problem by co-ordinating small industries with big industries, will Government reconsider the whole report in that light or will they ask for different reports from time to time?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, there is no question of a comprehensive report. This Committee is asked to go into particular industries and send up reports from time to time. At the moment, they have suggested that a further inquiry should be conducted in three or four directions. I might assure the hon. Member that we are constantly watching this position and the whole idea is that we should increase the employment potential in the country.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir, whether this Committee is expected to tour the country and visit important industries? May I also know who is the Chairman of this Committee?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, the work of the Committee has got to be

determined by the Committee itself. The Chairman of the Committee is Mr. Mulgaokar.

Shri Funnose: Is it the policy of Government, to encourage foreign capital in those industries where the installed capacity of indigenous industry is not fully employed?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid the policy of Government does not coincide with the ideas of the hon. Member.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: What is it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Encourage, if necessary.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know, Sir, if in the textile industry there is any scope for expansion of spindles? If so, to what extent?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I should defer hazarding any opinion on that subject, Sir, until I receive the report of the Textile Enquiry Committee.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know, Sir, if the terms of reference of the Committee include examination of the installed capacity of plants in Defence industries like ordnance factories?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister has already replied that it is open to the Committee to do whatever they like.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I might add, Sir, that there is a member of the Defence services working with this Committee. The idea is that this Committee should not be fettered by any specific or narrow terms of reference but should be in a position to take an over-all view of the picture and every facility will be given to them to inspect plants, whether it is Defence, Railways or other Government industry and also private industries.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: From what sources have the private engineers, who are members of the Committee, been drawn? And may I know their names?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I have given the names before. Mr. Mulgaokar, Chairman, is associated with the Tata Industries; Mr. Kirloskar is a well-known name in industrialisation in this country; then there is a European gentleman whose name is Mr. Chatterson, from Martin and Burn Company, Calcutta; then Mr. Gopala Iyengar, a Retired Superintending Engineer of the Madras Public Works Department, a person of considerable experience in mechanical engineering; then we have three officers: the Industrial Adviser (Engineering), Commerce and Industry Ministry, Mr. Kapur, Joint Director, Mechanical Engineering, Railways, and Mr. Dhar, Assistant Director General, Ordnance Factories, Defence Department.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whenever a Committee is appointed, are not the names of the members and the terms of reference published?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: They are published, Sir, and on a previous occasion I have placed these names before the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whenever a communique is issued a copy of that may be sent to the Library of the House so that such questions may be avoided.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: So far as the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is concerned, as a general rule, whenever a question of this nature is taken, Parliament is informed of it.

KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

*1135. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held up to this time by the newly constituted Khadi and Village Industries Board;

(b) the programme chalked out by the Board regarding the development of Khadi and other Village Industries;

(c) the nature and extent of the monetary and other assistance asked for by the Board from Government for

the development of Khadi and other village industries; and

(d) whether the Board has made any recommendation to Government regarding the meeting of Government's cloth requirements from Khadi?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 53.]

(d) Yes.

Shri Dabhi: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the target of khadi of the All India Village Industries Board for the year 1953-54 is the production of Rs. 3 crores worth khadi out of which Rs. 1 crore worth of khadi is expected to be purchased by the Central and State Governments; if so, whether Government have decided to fulfil the expectation of the Board, as far as they are concerned?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think the position is precisely as the hon. Member has envisaged. The Khadi Board started rather late in the year so that the target that they might have had in their mind, if they had started working earlier, must necessarily have to be circumscribed to some extent. For further details I would request the hon. Member to wait. As soon as we have any details in our hand we will let the hon. Member know.

Shri Dabhi: Is it a fact that Government have decided to make khadi a protected industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not know what the hon. Member means by protected industry. We will give all the help possible and it would be subsidised.

Shri M. M. Gandhi: May I know, Sir, whether Government have accepted all the recommendations and programmes of the Board and decided to give all the assistance including monetary assistance asked for by the Board?