

**TRANSFER OF IMPORT AND EXPORT WORK
FROM GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

*378. **Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the transfer of the import and export work to the office of the Director of Shipping, 6, Esplanade East, Calcutta, Government are put to financial loss annually over and above payment of wharfage by that office;

(b) the amount of wharfage paid to the Port Commissioners during 1947 to 1949 by the office of the Director of Shipping, Calcutta;

(c) whether the Eastern Badaux Company, an outside organisation appointed by the Government of India to investigate into the detailed working of the office of the Deputy Controller of Stationery, Calcutta, recommended expansion of the Clearing and Shipping Branch at No. 3, Church Lane, Calcutta, in order to achieve economy, efficiency and satisfactory performance; and

(d) if so, the reasons that led to the extinction of the import and export work from Government Agency?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) In 1947-48, the wharfage/demurrage charges incurred amounted to Rs. 4.67 lakhs. In 1948-49, the wharfage charges incurred amounted to Rs. 86,683/-.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) The Estimates Committee had later recommended that the Stationery Office should not handle shipping and clearing work of other Ministries. This was accepted by Government. It was not necessary to keep a small separate organisation in the Stationery Office and the shipping and clearing work of the Stationery Office was transferred to the Director of Supplies and Dis-

posals, a much larger organisation at Calcutta under this very Ministry.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know what other recommendations this Company has made with regard to efficiency, economy and satisfactory performance?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That does not arise out of this question.

Shri Raghavaiah: What are the wharfage charges for 1951 and 1952?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That figure is not available.

**MANUFACTURE OF ENGINES AND BOILERS AT
HINDUSTHAN SHIPYARD LIMITED**

*379. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether any arrangements have been made to manufacture engines and boilers in the Hindusthan Shipyards Ltd. at Visakhapatnam?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): The matter is under consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, sir, whether Government have any information as to the import of engines and boilers for this shipyard?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am sorry, Sir, I have no definite information.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether experts will be brought for the manufacture of these engines or whether we have sufficient number of experts here?

Shri K. C. Reddy: As I said the whole matter is under consideration and it is not merely a question of bringing experts. It is a question of establishing a separate factory altogether and so it is a very wide question and it is not merely a question of bringing a few experts.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether these engines and boilers have been ordered from the Hindustan Aircraft or Chittaranjan Factory?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have no information at present.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Has the Shipyard been able to finish its quota?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That question does not arise.

Shri Nanadas: Will any private or foreign firm be associated with this scheme?

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is not possible to say now what shape the scheme will take.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether such engines and boilers will be manufactured in the Hindusthan Shipyard within the Plan period?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot say definitely.

PRICE FIXATION OF MICA

*380. **Shri Gopala Rao:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps Government have taken for (i) the proper graduation of mica splittings and block mica; and (ii) fixation of minimum prices for each grade?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (i) The Indian standards Institution has taken up the work.

(ii) Government do not contemplate fixation of minimum prices.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the gradation is at present being done at the mines or in certain towns?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question of standards for the purpose of gradation have not yet been fixed. I cannot say whether these gradations are being done either at the mines or at the exporting level. No gradation is being done which can be related to any scheme of standards.

Short Notice Question and Answer

STRIKE IN INDIAN IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the continuing deterioration of steel production in Burnpur as a consequence of the protracted slow-down strike going on there;

(b) whether Government are aware of the attitude of hostility shown by the Indian Iron and Steel Company as well as by the State Government concerned towards the workers' desire for a change in the constitution of their Union; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to ensure that the revenue to be derived by the Central Government from the said Company's earnings does not continue to decrease and the Five Year Plan targets of steel production are not jeopardised?

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

(b) Government are aware that it is not a fact that the State Government or, for that matter, even the management have taken up a hostile attitude towards peaceful efforts on the part of labour to manage their union affairs.

(c) The Central and State Governments have been doing their best to persuade the workers to desist from continuing their present attitude of slowing down production to an extent that it not only affects national earnings but also has caused damage and is likely to cause serious damage to plant and equipment with its consequent mal-effects on the national economy.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Sir, have Government called for a report from the State Government regarding the circumstances in which seven people, including a boy of eleven, were killed by police firing on July 5th when the workers placed before the Sub-Divisional Officer the demands of their Action Committee which was functioning only because the workers had no confidence in the President and the Secretary of the Union?

Dr. M. M. Doss: May I know, Sir, whether the question of the hon.