

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know, Sir, the details of the property looted, whether it is in kind etc.?

Mr. Speaker: What is the nature of the property looted?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Cash, cloth and ornaments.

BARIUM SALTS

*971. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there is any possibility of manufacturing of barium salts in India?

(b) Is it a fact that the necessary raw materials for manufacturing barium salts are found in abundance in India?

(c) What steps are Government taking to encourage their production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir. In fact some barium salts are already being manufactured in the country.

(b) Of the two common barium minerals, *viz.*, barytes and witherite, the first is known to occur in India in commercial quantities and the latter is not known to be available in India in workable quantities.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 59.]

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In reply to (b), the hon. Minister said that some raw materials were not available in the country. May I know what amount of raw materials is being imported for the manufacture of these salts?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In reply to (b), I said baryte is available in commercial quantities, and I cannot see how I could relate it to the importation of raw materials of that

variety. So far as witherite is concerned, it is not available in any large quantities.

Shri Raghavaiah: What is the amount of the raw material that cannot be found in this country and is imported from abroad?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I said, Sir, barytes is available in the country.

Shrimati Tarkeawari Sinha: May I know, Sir, what are the main uses to which barium salt is put?

Mr. Speaker: That goes into a different enquiry. I think we will go to the next question.

EDUCATION IN N.E.F.A. AREA

*973. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have evolved a special scheme for educating the tribals of North East Frontier of India; and

(b) the details of the educational scheme that is to be worked out?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). Government are of opinion that schools in the North East Frontier Agency should be conducted generally in accordance with the scheme of Basic Education. But this will naturally have to be adapted to the special conditions prevailing in that area. The details of the scheme are being worked out by Government in consultation with the Hindustani Talimi Sangh.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to set up a high power transmitter in that area to broadcast special programmes for the tribal people?

Mr. Speaker: It is a question which should be addressed to the Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, whether any books are being

printed in the dialects of the North East Frontier area and if so, what is the script used?

Mr. Speaker: I think questions on that were put two or three days back.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know, Sir, how many basic schools have so far been opened in that area?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: We have no details yet of these.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, the names of different organisations that are conducting educational training in the area?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: All Government schools.

संगमरमर

*१७५. श्री बलबन्त सिंह मेहता :

क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या मकराने की संगमरमर की खानें देश की कुल जरूरत को पूरा कर सकती हैं; तथा

(ख) इटैलियन मार्बल को देश में आयात करने की क्या आवश्यकता है ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Imports were banned during the half year July—December, 1952. Several Representations from the trade and users were received that the shortfall is not taken up by indigenous production and that their business was suffering. The absolute ban was lifted for the half year July—December, 1953 and a quota of 50 per cent. was allowed. It is also understood that some shades of marble required by the building trade is not available from indigenous sources.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know, Sir, whether Government are

aware of the fact that both the marble mining and manufacturing industries are facing a great crisis primarily due to the keen competition from abroad, and that nearly 20,000 hands are very adversely affected?

Shri Karmarkar: My information—subject to correction—is that the marble extraction industry is suffering from the fact that its cost of production is rather high owing to want of power near the principal mines which produce these.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: May I know the policy of the Government as regards the import of such things which are easily available in abundance in the country?

Shri Karmarkar: The policy is to curtail imports wherever necessary and advisable.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know what is the total quantity of marble produced in these mines annually?

Shri Karmarkar: I will give my friend the production figures, roughly, marble 13 lakhs c. ft. per year, marble slabs 2.5 lakhs and marble tiles about 14,000 tons.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Have any steps been taken to modernise the industry?

Shri Karmarkar: It is rather difficult. I think the Rajasthan Government is considering the matter.

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that the policy was to curtail imports wherever necessary. Do the Government consider it necessary to curtail the import of marble?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The fact really was, we did completely ban the import of marble for a time. On the other hand, there are certain types of builders, people in the building trade who did not find adequate supplies and it is a question of what is meant to one person is poison to another. We have to equalise somewhere and the present import policy is designed to that end.