

capital, management and all the overheads. Therefore, there is a disparity.

**Shri Heda:** Is it a fact that the difference between the factory price and the price in the market is about Rs. 200 per ton, or about 40 per cent. of the cost price?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That is not a fact. The difference in price in the case of what we call basic steel, i.e. 'merchant steel', is as follows: Tata's retention price Rs. 331 and market price Rs. 393.

#### COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY

**\*3. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any report has been submitted to Government on the Cotton Textile Industry by the committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Nityanand Kanungo; and

(b) if not, how soon it is expected?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. It is likely to be received before the middle of this year.

**Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** May I know what is the reason for the delay in the submission of this report?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Committees are appointed and the work goes on. They have to collect a lot of data. In this particular instance, a lot of investigation had to be made in regard to the statistical data, on which the Committee could base its report. Some delay did occur in the statistical data being collected.

**Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Could we expect the report by the end of this session?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is my hope that that expectation will be fulfilled.

#### LOW COST FURNITURE

**\*5. Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a competition for designs for low cost furniture was held in Delhi;

(b) how many entries were there;

(c) who came up to the standard;

(d) whether any prize was given; and

(e) if so, the name of the competitor who won the prize?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir, in connection with the Low-cost Housing Exhibition.

(b) Eight.

(c) to (e). The assessors were of the opinion that none of the designs submitted was of a standard high enough to justify the award of the President's Gold Medal. The design submitted by Shrimati Urmila E. Chowdhury was adjudged to be the best among the designs received and she has been awarded the President's Silver Medal.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** May I know what steps Government propose to take to popularise the low-cost furniture?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** By encouraging it.

#### EXPORT OF CORRUGATED SHEETS TO NEPAL

**\*6. Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any firm in Calcutta has been granted export permit for supply of corrugated sheets for the year 1952-53 or 1953-54 to Nepal;

(b) if so, the quantity covered by the export permit and the value thereof; and

(c) whether any complaints have been received against this firm alleging malpractices in the export of corrugated sheets?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. More than one Calcutta firm were granted export permits.

(b)—

	Quantity	Approximate Value
1952-53	..301 tons	Rs. 1,95,650
1953-54	..487.5 tons	Rs. 3,16,900

(c) No complaint has been received against any of the Firms which have been granted export licences.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that a letter has been addressed to the Prime Minister and a copy of the letter has been sent to all party leaders? It has also been sent to the Minister of Commerce and Industry. I have got a copy of the letter with me.

**Mr. Speaker:** A letter may have been sent, but what is the point of the enquiry?

**Shri Nanadas:** The point is that the hon. Minister says that he has not received any complaint against any company from Calcutta, and here is the letter of complaint that I have received.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** We get anonymous complaints and some investigations are made. If the reference is to an anonymous complaint, I should say yes, but no specific complaint in writing by anybody who is prepared to affix his signature to the complaint has been received.

**Shri Nanadas:** It is not anonymous.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever it may be. The hon. Minister says that he has received anonymous complaints. He may not have received this particular complaint which the hon. Member has in his possession.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know from which railway stations generally the iron sheets are exported to Nepal?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** From the railway stations in the area of the producing concern.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether any duty is imposed by the Government of India as well as the Government of Nepal on the transport of this steel to Nepal?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** So far as the Government of Nepal is concerned, I am unable to give the information. So far as the Government of India is concerned, we had an export duty on steel, but we did not levy an export duty in regard to goods that went internally through land customs.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Are Government aware that there is a shortage of corrugated sheets in India and they are not available in the market here?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It may be so.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that galvanized corrugated sheets are generally black-marketed to East Pakistan? Do they know that some quantity allotted to Nepal is disposed of in the black-market in Calcutta?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That allegation in regard to what has been allocated to Nepal has been received and the matter is being enquired into. In regard to the generalised proposition that these sheets are black-marketed, it depends on the circumstances prevailing. Sometimes, the demand is slack and there is no black-marketing. At other times, the demand is great and perhaps there is black-marketing.

#### PANCHAYATS AND CO-OPERATIVES

\*8. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state how far the recommendations of the Planning Commission in the first Five Year Plan for utilising the agency of the village Panchayats and Co-operatives for minor irrigation and similar other developmental work are being implemented in the country?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.