

people have not imported to the same extent as they used to do.

Mr. Speaker: He is talking of exports.

Shri B. S. Murthy: According to the statement, it is stated that in 1951-1952 the export was to the tune of Rs. 1,27,442 and in 1952-53 it was 14,377. I want to know the reasons for this abnormal fall in the export of rubies.

Shri Karmarkar: There seems to be no particular reason because in the preceding year, that is 1950-51, the exports were only Rs. 21,946. There is no particular reason as such.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Government of India are aware that exportable varieties of what are called oriental topaz and oriental emeralds occur in Nedumangad Taluk of Travancore-Cochin State in large quantities?

Shri Karmarkar: It is very possible, but I should like to have notice.

BORDER INCIDENTS

*1062. **Shri Anirudha Sinha:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of cattle-lifting, arson and thefts have been committed by the Nationals of Pakistan in several villages in Goalpokhar Thana of Purnea District;

(b) the number of cattle lifted during the last one year; and

(c) the steps that have been taken or are being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). Two cases of cattle lifting from the Goalpokhar Thana have so far been reported to the Government of India. Both these incidents took place on the 12th January 1954. In one case, some Pakistani nationals trespassed into Indian territory and lifted two head of cattle from Kutti Basti. In the second case, six head of cattle were lifted from Kanthigach.

There have also been other cases of theft and cattle lifting, details of which are not available. The total number of cattle lifted in 1953 was 36.

(c) Adequate security measures including regular patrolling of the border area, have been taken. It has also been suggested to the Government of Pakistan that the procedure at present in force between East Bengal on the one hand and West Bengal and Assam on the other, for the District Magistrates of the districts concerned to meet and settle such incidents as well as devise steps for the prevention of their recurrence, should be made applicable to incidents on the Bihar-East Bengal border.

Shri Anirudha Sinha: Is it a fact that these atrocious activities have been going on unchecked on the Purnea border for the last one year?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: There have been several such cases of cattle lifting along the border.

Shri Anirudha Sinha: How many heads of cattle which were lifted have been recovered and returned to the original owners?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have not got the information with me at present.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether Government maintain any register of the cattle lifted?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: May I suggest, Sir, that thefts are also occurring in other parts of our country. There is therefore, nothing very unusual in the theft of cattle.

STEEL PLANT

*1063. **Shri B. C. Das:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state on what principles the personnel of the Board of Directors for the administration of the proposed steel plant in Rourekala (Orissa) have been selected?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G.

Dubey): Two of the Directors are representatives of Messrs. Krupp and Demag and have been appointed in accordance with agreement with the German Firms. The other Directors have been chosen keeping in view their qualifications, their experience of industry and administration in several spheres.

Shri B. C. Das: May I ask whether any representation has been made either by the Government of Orissa or by any public body there, to have some representative from that State on the Board of Directors?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): We have been in correspondence with the Government of Orissa and they have made some proposals which are still under the consideration of the Government of India.

Shri B. C. Das: May I know whether the Government are aware that there is a strong reaction in the State of Orissa against the non-inclusion of an Oriyan in the Board of Directors?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether Government proposes to bring in any legislative measure to regularise all such appointments in the Steel Corporation?

Shri K. C. Reddy: There is no irregularity as such now. As far as the general question is concerned, the hon. Member knows that the Government have under consideration suitable legislation in connection with the point he has raised.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that the officer who has been appointed Managing Director of this project was found inefficient in his previous job in D.V.C. and the Rau Committee report has made some adverse remarks against him?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not think it is true.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether the German technical consultants have also tendered advice to

the Government regarding the composition of the Board?

Shri K. C. Reddy: They have not rendered any advice. According to agreement, we have to take two representatives of the German firm on the Board of Directors. As regards the others, it is our own choice.

कमाया हुआ चमड़ा (आयात)

*१०६५. श्री बी० एन० कुरील : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्रा यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५३ में कितने मूल्य का कमाया हुआ चमड़ा विदेशों से भारत मंगाया गया ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Rs. 8,96,000.

Shri B. N. Kureel: May I know, Sir, the value of untanned leather exported from India during the last year?

Shri Karmarkar: Rs. 20,79,64,316 for leather as a whole.

Shri K. K. Dasu: May I know the names of the countries from where tanned leather has been imported?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information on that point, but I should like to clear a misapprehension. This leather ordinarily consists of chrome-splits. These are obtained by slicing the sides, the upper surface as tanned leather and the lower surface as splits which is useful in our country.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो आयात किया गया चमड़ा है, वह तले का चमड़ा है या क्रोम लेदर होता है ?

श्री कर्मकर : मैं ने जैसा अग्रेजी में कहा वह क्रोम लेदर होता है ।

PASSPORT SYSTEM

*1066. **Shri S. N. Das**: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the passport system has been centralised under the Government of India; and