

पुनर्वास बोर्ड में हरिजन

*१३०७. श्री पी० एल० बाबूपाल : क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पुनर्वास बोर्ड के प्रादेशिक कार्यालयों में कितने कर्मचारी हैं और उनमें हरिजनों की संख्या कितनी है ?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): The Displaced Harijan Rehabilitation Board has been wound up.

श्री पी० एल० बाबूपाल : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न हिन्दी में है, इसलिये माननीय मंत्री जी मुझे उत्तर हिन्दी में देने का कष्ट करें।

पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री ए० पी० लैन) : डिस्प्लेस्ड हरिजन रिहैबिलिटेशन बोर्ड बन्द कर दिया गया है।

MANGANESE MINES

*1308. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manganese mines in production in various parts of India at present;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there has been wasteful exploitation of this important ore; and

(c) what action Government have taken to prevent such wasteful exploitation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) About 250.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Bureau of Mines is reported to have found out in 1950 that large quantities of manganese ore are thrown into the dumps as waste material by some of the manganese mine owners and that some wasteful practices are adopted in manganese mining.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 77.]

Shri Wodeyar: May I know the number of mines statewide?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member puts down an unstarred question, he will get the answer.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes.

Shri Jangde: May I know whether the Central Government have set up a manganese processing plant in Madhya Pradesh?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Wodeyar: How much of it is used in the country, and how much is exported?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got the break-up with me at the moment.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This relates to internal production and wastage. How does that question arise?

Now, Shri T. K. Chaudhuri.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: In view of your observation just made, I do not want to put any question.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether, in view of the importance of this manganese ore in these days of warfare, Government are thinking of starting any industry to melt the ore and find some use for it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any proposal before Government to exploit this resource?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Are Government aware that this is one of the most profitable industries in India today, and yet the conditions of labour in this industry are hopeless?

Shri Karmarkar: It is profitable, so far as I know. But regarding conditions of labour, I have no information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question does not relate to labour. How does

the hon. Member's question arise out of this.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Is it a fact that the Mines Act does not apply to this industry?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to production, wastage and exploitation. Does the Mines Act refer to wastage?

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Yes, it refers to exploitation. There is no proper exploitation, because Government cannot control it.

Shri Karmarkar: I think the Mines Act refer to Labour.

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

EXPORT OF WHEAT FLOUR

*1310. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat flour so far exported from India since Government allowed its export;

(b) the countries to which the same has been exported; and

(c) the total value of the export?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 805 tons upto the end of 22nd February 1954.

(b) Burma, Indonesia, Bahrein, Muscat, Kuwait, Gwadur, Dubai, Qatar and Seychelles.

(c) Rs. 4,02,540.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to say on this occasion that I expect during the question-hour all Ministers of all the departments of the Government to be here. During supplementary questions, some matter arises which is within the peculiar knowledge of another Minister, as for instance, in the previous question whether labour legislation applied to the mines or not.

Why should the hon. Member have to put down a separate question for this? The Cabinet works as a whole. If the Minister concerned is present, he can answer it. So, as far as possible, they ought not to pass it on from one Ministry to another Ministry. If they have got the information, the hon. Ministers by themselves or their Deputies should answer. The question-hour is so important.

Dr. N. B. Khare: * * * *

Shri N. L. Joshi: Why are Government allowing exports? May I know whether we are surplus?

Shri Karmarkar: There is no question of surplus. The flour mills wanted to establish their pre-war markets. So we encourage them, but we have put a definite ceiling of 50,000 tons.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the total quantity of wheat so far issued from the Central pool to the flour mills?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know whether instructions have been issued to export control authorities in Calcutta to permit export of wheat flour, and if so, when?

Shri Karmarkar: The export would be when they think they could export. But the date of issue of instructions was 20th February 1954.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know whether it is the flour from imported wheat or local wheat that is being exported?

Shri Karmarkar: Whether permission to import wheat is necessary?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it the local wheat or imported wheat that is exported?

Shri Karmarkar: In the first instance, we gave the option of buying local wheat, but when it was repre-