

High Powered Officers of India and Pakistan are working out the details of implementation and are expected to submit their recommendations to their respective Governments shortly.

(b) No.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, whether, as a result of the decision taken in this Conference, the enactments on the subject of abducted persons in India are likely to be revised or amended in any way?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There is no question of amendment of the Act. After some time, the present Act will expire.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May we know the general principles of agreement which were said to have been arrived at on the question of return of the abducted persons?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: A large number of details were considered in this Conference. The broad principle that has always been emphasised on the part of India is that finally no one should be exchanged or sent across the border, this way or that way, except with her wish and will; that has always been emphasised by us.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total number of abducted persons that have been recovered in India during this year?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These figures have been repeatedly given—about three or four times. They could be given again if sufficient notice is given.

Mr. Speaker : Besides, I do not see how this question arises out of this.

EXPORT OF MANGANESE ORE

***29. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the imposition of export duty on manganese ore is affecting the

export of the commodity and foreign markets are being lost thereby;

(b) what are the comparative figures of export of manganese ore in the years 1951, 1952, 1953 and upto 30th June, 1954;

(c) whether it is a fact that non-availability of wagons for transport of manganese ore is partly responsible for the depression in this business; and

(d) whether the removal of preferential Schedules by Railways for the movements of goods will help to expedite its export?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is difficult to assign precise reasons for the contraction of foreign markets. The export duty, however, has since been abolished.

1951	969,000 tons.
1952	14,09,000 tons.
1953	16,58,000 tons.
1954 (Jan/June)	520,000 tons.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Large stocks have accumulated at the ports which have not so far been shipped.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the countries to which we are mostly exporting our ores and what are the percentages?

Shri Karmarkar: Our export trade during 1953-54 was particularly with U. K. (ten per cent.), USA (62 per cent.) and Japan (six per cent.); other countries like Sweden, Norway, Germany, France, Italy account for about 22 per cent.

Shri Nanadas: In answer to part (a), the hon. Minister stated that it would not be possible to ascertain to what extent the export duty affects the export of manganese ore? May I know, then, for what reasons Government have abolished export duty on manganese ore?

Shri Karmarkar: We saw the exports suffering and we thought that this may be one of the measures which would help to export more.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या यह सच है कि मँगनीज और के बहुत से व्यापारियों ने रेलवे का भाड़ा कम करने के लिये गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना की है ताकि वे सस्ते दाम में माल भेज सकें ?

श्री करमकर : हमें पता नहीं रेलवे भाड़ा कम करने के कुछ रिप्रेजेंटेशंस तो थे, फ्री फीस्लीटीज के बारे में थे, लेकिन ऐसा करना मुश्किल था और उसके लिये हमने किन्हीं २ रेलों पर रिस्ट्रिक्शंस डाले, रेल के भाड़े के बारे में कोई क्वेश्चन हमारे पास नहीं आया ।

E. C. A. F. E.

*32. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation which was sent to attend the conference of the E.C.A.F.E. on water resources development held in Tokyo in the month of May, 1953, has submitted any report;

(b) if so, what are the important features of the report; and

(c) the important subjects discussed in the conference and the part that delegates from India played there?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A copy of the report submitted by the delegation is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. S-245/54.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the report that has been submitted has been scrutinised by the Government and, if so, what are the important subjects on which the Government of India would like to take action?

Shri Hathi: The report is under the examination of Government.

G. A. T. T.

*33. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed the investigation of the working of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; and

(b) if so, what conclusions have been reached in the matter?

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

(a) and (b). A study of the effects of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs in so far as it affects our country is a continuous process and amendments of parts of the agreement are often put forward at the meetings of the G. A. T. T. No special study has, however, been undertaken in the manner suggested.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Will it be possible for Government to say what percentage of our exports go to GATT countries and what percentage of our total imports come from GATT countries, so that we can find out what the impact of the Agreement on our import-export trade is?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If a question is put, I will try to answer it.

Shri Joachim Alva: In making a study, which is a continuous process as the hon. Minister said, of the working of the GATT, has Government noted that the U. S. A. invoked the clauses of this Agreement when Ceylon wanted to export strategic materials to China, and will Government take note of these pitfalls and time-bombs?

Mr. Speaker: He does not want any information; he wants Government to take note of it.