

Shri S. N. Das: I want to know whether the Indian Cottage Industries Export Committee has submitted its report. I am not referring to the Cottage Industries Board.

Shri Karmarkar: There is a sub-committee under the Cottage Industries Board, I suppose with four members, functioning with a view to promote export of cottage industries products. But, so far as I know, there was no question of submitting any report. It meets and decides.

Shri S. N. Das: In a reply given to a question of mine during 1951, and in the statement which was laid on the Table of the House, it was stated that this Committee would finish its work at an early date in 1951. The Committee was appointed on the 10th June 1950, and it was expected to submit its report by 10th June 1951.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out that information; the hon. Member has confused the matter.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Development Committee on Industries, appointed for Labour specially, on the 1st February 1951, still continues to exist or has been abolished?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I make a submission, Sir, in this connection. If the hon. Member had put down a specific question in regard to the Committees about which he wants information, he could have had it. As it is, the question is of an omnibus nature, and we could not really find out what the hon. Member had in mind. That is why the answer given has been rather vague. We have given only such information as is available to us. If the hon. Member puts down a specific question in regard to the Committee which he has in mind, we shall certainly try to furnish the information required.

EXPORT OF MONKEYS

***445. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the progress in export of monkeys to foreign countries by sea has been maintained?

(b) If so, what are the figures for 1950-51, and 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes,

(b) 23,257 and 47,185 monkeys were exported in 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively. May I also add, Sir, that I am happy over the fact that the hon. Member's interest in the subject is continuous.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is there any country which is competing with us in this trade?

GOODS HELD UP AT PORT SAID

***446. Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that goods belonging to the Indian merchants shipped to India from Greece, Turkey and other countries are often held up at Port Said; and

(b) what steps, if any, Government have taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Only once to our knowledge, have goods been held up at Port Said. This was in October 1951 on account of a labour strike there due to the strained relations between Egypt and the United Kingdom. These goods had been unloaded at Port Said for transhipment eastwards and westwards. There was no discrimination against goods destined for India. Goods in direct transit were not held up at all.

(b) As soon as the Government came to know about the delay in the transhipment of goods at Port Said they took up the matter with the Egyptian Government in order to make some special arrangement for the goods destined for India. Before long the strike came to an end and goods began to be shipped on as usual.

FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

***447. Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are at present taking any steps in regard to the merger of Foreign Settlements in India; and

(b) the attitude of the Foreign Governments concerned regarding the transfer of these Settlements to India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to my reply to question No. 1434 on the 1st October 1951 in the last Parliament. Since then a report of some neutral observers sent by the French Government to the