

Shri Karmarkar: The obvious reason is that there has been a slump in the demand. They do not want the goods for the time being.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have come to know that there was an organised attempt on the part of the European business magnates—merchants in Quilon?

Mr. Speaker: The Member is supposed to put questions which are permissible under the rules.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the Government would consider this matter and give interim relief to the unemployed who are affected?

Mr. Speaker: This is just a repetition. All these are suggestions for action. It is the concern mainly and principally of the State Government.

Shri N. S. Nair: May I know, Sir, whether the coir goods are included among the goods within the purview of trade agreements?

Shri Karmarkar: I am happy to say that it is so. In our agreements with Burma, Italy and Germany we stipulated for the export of coir.

COIR AND COIR GOODS (EXPORT)

*454. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of coir and coir goods exported to the United States of America and the United Kingdom during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The total quantities of coir and coir goods exported in 1950, 1951 and January-March 1952 to the United States of America were 8,255 tons, 5,526 tons and 1,149 tons respectively; and to United Kingdom 20,680 tons, 19,771 tons and 3,627 tons, respectively.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the amount of coir consumed in India, Sir?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, what steps the Government would take to fight this slump which has now cropped up in the coir industry and which will help the employees who are now unemployed?

Mr. Speaker: That is for the State Government.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that there was an organised attempt.....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow such questions.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Have the Government taken any steps to give relief to those who have been thrown out of employment?

Mr. Speaker: He has already said that that is for the State Government to take steps.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know the value of coir goods exported to the U.S.A. during the last one year?

Shri Karmarkar: It is 7 lakhs 58 thousand. That is for the year 1951.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Has the Government considered the advisability of constituting a coir board?

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion for action.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether a resolution is passed by the statutory committee for promotion of coconut production to the effect that coir industry may also be left within the purview of that Committee?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out.

CLASH BETWEEN TIBETANS AND CHINESE IN LHASA

*455. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have detailed information about the recent clash between the Tibetan residents and the Chinese occupation troops in Lhasa;

(b) whether any Indians were involved in the same; and

(c) whether there has been any loss of Indian property as a result of the clash?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have received reports of a minor clash between the Chinese soldiers and a few Tibetans on the 1st April, 1952 but they have no detailed information.

(c) No.

(b) No.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Now, Sir, has there been any exodus of Tibetans after this clash into India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think there has been any marked exo-

due. There have been some Tibetans coming to India in small numbers from time to time but I have not been informed of any great increase in their number.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is the Government aware that in the recent Chinese maps Bhutan is shown as part of China?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not seen those particular maps. In the old Chinese map I know certain parts of Indian Union territory were shown. And when this matter was brought to the notice of the Chinese Government, they said that they attached no importance to those old maps because they had no time to print the maps afresh.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I am speaking of maps which are quite recent.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member can perhaps send me the maps he has and I will look into the matter.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: I want to know whether Government has any information to the effect that some Chinese are coming into India as Tibetan refugees?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Chinese come to India as Chinese without putting a guise. There is no difficulty about any individual coming to India in the ordinary course.

EXPORT OF BONE MEAL

*456. **Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether India is still exporting bone meal to foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No, Sir.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: May I know if any discrimination is still practised in giving protection to bone meal factories in various States?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think, to the extent of my information, that there is any particular protection to bone meal. Actually what we are doing is, we are prohibiting bone meal from being exported. We have naturally no bone meal as such coming in excepting in forms of mixtures and other types of fertilizers. So I am not aware of the position that the hon. Member envisages.

BIHAR JUTE

*457. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that prices of Bihar jute have come down to an abnormal low level in the jute market of Calcutta?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that the prices that are offered for Bihar jute in Calcutta are hardly sufficient to meet even the agriculturist's cost of production?

(c) Are Government aware that foreign jute receive more attractive prices and greater attention than Bihar or even West Bengal jute in Calcutta jute market, with the result that a huge quantity of Bihar jute is glutted in Calcutta market for want of purchasers?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take to restore the prices for Bihar jute in particular and Indian jute in general?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The fall in the prices of Bihar jute in the Calcutta market has been about the same as in other varieties of jute.

(b) The majority of jute growers sold their crop by February and received good prices. It is not possible to say whether Bihar jute growers took advantage of February prices or not.

(c) Some varieties of Pakistan jute are of better quality than Indian jute and have always commanded better prices. At the moment, however, mills are not buying Pakistan jute because of high prices. Stocks of raw jute in the Calcutta market are not regarded as very abnormal. Of late, the offtake by mills has shown signs of increase.

(d) Government will carefully watch the situation.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that due to fall in prices the cultivators of Bihar have reduced cultivation of jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Do the Government propose to fix a minimum price for jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government do not contemplate anything of the kind now.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is the Government aware that smuggling of East