

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know what is the estimated cost of modernising the machinery of the jute mills in India?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The estimates vary from Rs. 70 crores to Rs. 140 crores.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** How is this to be spread over, and may I know whether Government is going to make any contribution or whether the jute mills alone will have to bear all this cost?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is premature to make any authoritative statement on this matter, because, as I said, the talks are going on; it is still in the stage of talks which are inconclusive.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know to what extent there will be retrenchment of labour as a result of such modernisation of the jute mills?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The hon. Member is a trifle premature.

**Shri N. S. Nair:** Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a newspaper report that Pakistan is trying to discriminate against India and is imposing an export duty on jute?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The question has been answered on a previous occasion.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether there is any large-scale unemployment due to want of raw jute for our industry?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I cannot quite catch the import of the hon. Member's question.

#### HEAVY ELECTRO-MECHANICAL INDUSTRIES

**\*1677. Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration the question of opening heavy electro-mechanical industries in India in order to facilitate domestic consumption of Mica; and

(b) if so, how long will it take to materialise?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) No, Sir, not in the immediate future.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri N. P. Sinha:** All mica is exported to foreign countries, of course, after preliminary processing here, and it is brought to India for consumption only in a finished condition; we do not do anything here in the way of manufacture. Now that power is going to be available in the Bokaro area and in other areas, may I know whether the Government will take steps to introduce such industry in India?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Some efforts were made some three or four years back with a view to starting electro-mechanical industries in India, and three well known firms were asked to submit project reports. But owing to other considerations the schemes were given up. They may be revived, but I cannot say when.

**Shri N. P. Sinha:** The Mica Inquiry Commission has recommended that such industry should be started immediately. May I know whether Government is going to implement that recommendation?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Recommendations are made, and we have got recommendations galore in the archives of the Government of India, but it does not mean that all recommendations can be implemented. There are considerations like finance which stand in the way of the recommendations being implemented.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether it is a fact that the mica mines in Godur have been closed down because of want of work and that many labourers have been discharged?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The question relates to the utilisation of mica, not to the exploitation of mica.

#### SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS (EXPORT)

**\*1678. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any export of surgical instruments from India during the period 1948 to 1951; and

(b) if so, (i) to what country,

(ii) whether there has been any decline in the export; and

(iii) whether there has been any complaint from the importing countries for lack of standardisation?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a), (b) (i), (ii) and (iii). Exports of surgical instruments are small and statistics for the period 1948 to 1951 have not been recorded. Government have received no complaints from importing countries.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know what are the principal places in India where these surgical instruments are manufactured?

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

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know how many firms there are in India which manufacture surgical instruments?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Notice, Sir.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Is it a fact that surgical instruments were manufactured on a cottage industry basis in the Punjab?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I will take that information from the hon. Member.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Has there been any manufacture of these surgical instruments on a cottage industry basis somewhere near Roorkee, and are these manufacturing centres now being closed?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I require notice.

#### EXPORT AND IMPORT CONTROL ORGANISATION

\*1681. **Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers, clerks and class IV servants employed in Export and Import Control Organisation in 1950, 1951 and its present strength and expenditure incurred on it; and

(b) whether any economy has been effected in the current year in staff as well as their emoluments?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) A statement giving the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 9].

(b) Proposals for some reduction in staff are under examination at present and some economy during the rest of the financial year is likely.

**Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to reduce the staff?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Yes, Sir. We are considering the proposal about reduction of the staff. We considered that question and we think that the reduction of staff to some extent is feasible at Bombay and Calcutta but at the other centres and headquarters it is not feasible.

**Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** May I know the income from the export and import licences?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The income during 1950-51 was 71.43 lakhs and during 1951-52 56.29 lakhs. The figures for the current year are awaited.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Two years ago there was some increase in the staff in this Department. May I know whether today the level of persons employed is the same as two years before or some economy has been effected?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I want notice. But the expenditure as given in the statement shows a very small increase from 40.73 lakhs to 44.52 lakhs.

#### PUBLICATIONS IN HINDI

\*1682. **Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the number of publications in Hindi issued by his Ministry and their circulation?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** Nil.

**Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** May I know whether the Government proposes to increase the number of publications in Hindi in view of the fact that Hindi is going to be the National Language?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Sir, this question has been considered at various times at an earlier stage and to increase the number of Hindi publications was not considered to be feasible in view of the stringency of finance and then after the Industries and Commerce Ministry was integrated, the decision of the Ministry on this question was that the matter will be reconsidered after watching for some time as to how the combined journal i.e. the Journal of Industries and Trade and Commerce would fare.