

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what steps are being taken by the Government at present in order to establish close cultural relations with other countries?

Mr. Speaker: It is a very wide question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether other delegations are proposed to be sent abroad?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Government of India in its various Ministries is taking various steps to this end. I cannot suddenly answer that question.

श्री एस० एन० दास: जब यह सांस्कृतिक मंडल विदेश से लौटते हैं तो क्या वे गवर्नमेंट के पास कोई रिपोर्ट भेजते हैं ?

[**Shri S. N. Das:** Do these cultural missions submit any report to the Government on their return?]

श्री जवाहर लाल नेहरू: जी हाँ, कुछ त कुछ रिपोर्ट तो भेजते ही हैं।

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, they do make a report.]

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the attention of the Government is drawn to press reports that the Soviet Cultural Delegation while it was in India, and especially while at Madras, was indulging in political propaganda?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a very vague question.

Shri C. N. P. Sinha: May I know what steps have the Government taken to associate Members of Parliament with such delegations?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Members of Parliament are included sometimes.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said that five non-official delegations went abroad. May I know whether they have submitted any report to the Government?

Shri Satish Chandra: Five delegations were official and not non-official.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Is the hon. Member asking about the official or the non-official delegations?

Shri S. C. Samanta: I am referring to the non-official delegations.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They have nothing to do with the Government.

They may, if they so choose, send us a report, or they may not.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether in sending these cultural delegations the Government will also take into consideration the workers' feelings and their representations?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

ELECTRIC FANS

*746. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Standards Institution has formulated the standard of specifications for all types of electric fans manufactured in India;

(b) how much steel was allocated to the electric fan industry in India in the years from 1949 to 1951 (year-wise); and

(c) whether the import of fans from other countries has increased or decreased in recent years and how the prices of imported fans compare with indigenous ones?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Indian Standards Institution has finalised and published standard specification for ceiling fans and has prepared a draft specification for table fans. The question of adopting standards for railway carriage fans is at present under consideration.

(b) The following quantities of steel were allotted to the Electric Fan manufacturers on the Central Steel Processing Industries list:—

Year	Quantity.
1949	... 1435 tons.
1950	... 1578 "
1951	... 1603 "

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 20.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the existing factories in India are manufacturing fans according to the specifications of the Indian Standards Institution and whether any fault has been found with any of the factories?

Shri Karmarkar: Subject to correction, yes.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know about the quality of the indigenous fans in comparison with the imported ones?

Shri Karmarkar: It is quite good.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister has supplied us figures in the statement which go to show that the imported ceiling fan as well as the table fan compare favourably as regards price. May I know why the number of factories existing in India has decreased in 1951?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not sure as to why the number of factories has decreased, if it has decreased, but so far as I am aware, the present annual demand is estimated to be 235,000 tons and so far as ceiling fans are concerned, we have completely cut out the import.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the production has been affected in any way due to the non-supply of the steel required by them?

Shri Karmarkar: I am happy that the hon. Member put that question. In fact production has been progressively increasing. In 1949 the production was 170,843. In 1950 it was 193,799 and in 1951 it was 212,495 Nos.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the British manufacturers of the G.E.C. are considered to be local manufacturers?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the production of fans is according to the rated capacity of the various firms?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I might mention that production is not according to the rated capacity. The rated capacity is higher. It does not always happen that production is according to rated capacity.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN TEA GARDENS

*747. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the labour troubles and *fracas* that took place in different tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal in the year 1951-52 and also up to the 30th April, 1952;

(b) the causes of the trouble and *fracas*;

(c) in how many cases the tea estate officers were attacked and man-handled;

(d) whether there was any loss of life;

(e) whether any enquiry either official or non-official was made; and

(f) if so, what are the findings?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) There were 34 cases of stoppage of work in tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal from the 1st April, 1951 to the 30th April, 1952. Four stoppages resulted in acts of violence. In addition, there were nine cases of *fracas* in Assam.

(b) The more important of the causes of the stoppages and *fracas* were:

- (1) dis-satisfaction over supply of rations;
- (2) demand for increased wages;
- (3) protest against alleged ill-treatment by the managerial or supervisory staff; and
- (4) dismissal of workers.

(c) In seven cases tea estate officers were attacked.

(d) In one tea estate in Assam, a worker died as the result of the injuries sustained in a *fracas* between two sections of workers over the throwing of coloured water on *fagua* day.

(e) and (f). The officers of the State Government charged with the duty of conciliation intervened and settled the disputes. In cases involving violence, the officers in charge of law and order intervened and took necessary action. In two cases, the courts have convicted the accused.

Shri Venkataraman: Is it a fact that under the Tea Districts Migration Act, labour was assured that they would get rations if they joined service in Assam and West Bengal and is it a fact that rice and rations were not supplied according to that agreement?

Shri V. V. Giri: For the first part of the question, the answer is yes. As regards the second part, I have no information.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know how many of the workmen were injured in the *fracas*?

Shri V. V. Giri: I fear I have not got the information. I shall supply it to the hon. Member.

Shri Thann Pillai: May I know whether it is fact that many of these troubles are due to the refusal of the right of entry to the friends and relatives of the labourers to see the labourers who serve in the estates?

Shri V. V. Giri: I do not think so.