

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वैसे तो वहाँ भूमि काफी है, लेकिन यह इस बात पर मुन्नहसिर करता है कि वहाँ पर हमें कितना जंगल रखना है, और कितनी भूमि हमें साफ़ करनी है। हमने एक योजना भी बनाई है जिसके अनुसार हमारी दो या तीन हज़ार परिवारों को बसाने की स्कीम है, लेकिन मैं अभी कह नहीं सकता कि वहाँ पर कितने परिवार बसाये जायेंगे।

Shri Kakkan: May I know whether the Government is having this plan on a permanent basis or on a temporary basis?

Shri A. P. Jain: On a permanent basis, Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how much sum has been set apart for the development of the areas where these displaced persons are living and how much for the reclamation of other places?

Shri A. P. Jain: In fact, the reclamation is done by the Home Ministry, and my Ministry sends only refugees for settlement there. We are giving a certain amount of assistance, about which I have given details in this House more than once.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : पिछड़ी हुई जातियों के वहाँ पर पूर्वी बंगाल से कितने लोग आये हैं, नै यह सवाल इसलिये पूछना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि पूर्वी बंगाल में हम लोगों की काफी तादाद है ?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member need not give the reasons; he can just ask for information. What is the information which he requires?

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं मन्त्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वी बंगाल से जो लोग इधर आये हैं, उन में हमारे अछूत भाइयों की क्या तादाद है ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इस विषय में हमारे पास कोई आंकड़े नहीं हैं जिनसे मैं उन अछूत भाइयों की तादाद बता सकूँ, हम अछूतों और दूसरी जातियों में कोई भेदभाव नहीं

रखते और सब को बराबरी का स्थान देते हैं।

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether any other families have gone there not on Government's initiative?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not to my knowledge.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether there were any requests from these families for more facilities?

Shri A. P. Jain: For those who go to Andamans, facilities are given on a much higher scale than for those going elsewhere.

SHELLAC AND RAW LAC

***2057. Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) how much raw lac was annually produced in India in the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 and in what States;

(b) how much of this produce was exported to foreign countries during this period in the shape of shellac and raw lac and to what countries;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the export trade of this commodity during this period; and

(d) the market prices of shellac and raw lac during the period mentioned above and the prices now prevailing?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (d). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 12).

(b) and (c). Attention is invited to the printed publication "Accounts relating to the Foreign Sea and Air borne Trade and Navigation of India for March, 1952" which contains the required information.

Shri Jasani: May I know whether it is a fact that India produces a major portion of the world's consumption of lac?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out what percentage we produce in this country.

Shri Jasani: From the statement I find that the price of lac is falling daily. May I know whether it is due to the foreign interests controlling the whole business here?

Shri Karmarkar: The demand for lac which had risen in India was owing

to the Korean situation. Now that demand is falling, and the prices also are falling down as a consequence.

Shri Jasani: Will the Government take steps to protest the business interests which do not get the full price for their commodities?

Shri Karmarkar: The price of this commodity depends upon the law of demand and supply, and Government have no appreciable control over it by which they can give them a higher price.

Shri Dhusiya: May I know what percentage of lac is consumed in India and in what industries?

Shri Karmarkar: A very unappreciable portion is consumed here, while a large quantity is exported outside.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know what the Government are doing to encourage the expansion of the production of lac by the *Adbasis*?

Shri Karmarkar: We are not aware of the need for any protection as such, but if the hon. Member makes a suggestion, we shall consider it.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I know whether the Government has got any control over the lac market and if so, may I know why there is so much fluctuation in prices?

Shri Karmarkar: We have every control but we have not been exercising any such control, because there has been no occasion for doing so inasmuch as the prices have always depended on the normal law of supply and demand. Government are interested in encouraging the production and rise in price of lac, because greater exports result in the Government getting foreign exchange and the people concerned getting more money.

PLYWOOD (IMPORT)

*2058. **Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Plywood imported into India during 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) the quantity manufactured in India during the same period;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government of India to give protection to this Industry; and

(d) if so, what are those?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 13].

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Protection to the Plywood Industry was originally granted in September 1948 on the recommendation of the late Tariff Board up to 31st March 1950, by converting the then existing revenue duty of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* into an equivalent protective duty. Since then the period of protection has been extended till 31st December, 1952.

Shri Jasani: From the statement I find that we have imported in 1950-51 Rs. 50 lakhs worth of tea chests plywood, whereas in 1951-52 we have imported Rs. 1.42 crores worth of plywood. May I know what the reasons for this increase are?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The reason must necessarily be the shortage of stock in this country, and the demand for it having increased.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that most of the plywood for tea chests are imported from abroad, while there is a large stock available in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is not the information which my Ministry has.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know whether there has been greater import into the country despite the granting of this protection?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Obviously.

Mr. Speaker: The answers are being given inferentially and it would be better that notice is given for specific questions.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: My question is this, Sir. Has the import gone up after the granting of protection, and if so, what are the causes that have led up to it? When protection is granted, naturally we expect that there would be less imports. Therefore, I would like the hon. Minister to explain the position.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The manner in which protection is given is by raising the duty. Here the duty is 30 per cent. *ad valorem*. Apparently, people who import these goods into this country find that they can import them at cheaper prices even after paying the 30 per cent. duty than what the cost of manufacture of the local product is. It may be that there are other