

Mr. Giri, when he visited the camp in 1948, reported to the Government of India that the camp was being maintained at a high level of efficiency.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether the Indian Government is running a quarantine establishment at Talaimannar on the other side?

Shri Satish Chandra: I require notice.

HANDLOOM CLOTH

***2194. Shri Damodara Menon:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that over fifty lakhs worth of handloom cloth is lying unsold in the handloom establishments at Cannanore and suburbs and that several thousands of weavers have been thrown out of work; and

(b) what steps do Government propose to take to find markets for this accumulated stock and to relieve the unemployment of handloom weavers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes. Government have been informed of that before the number of weavers thrown out of work is, however, estimated to be about 10,000.

(b) The Government of Madras have drawn up a Scheme to provide relief to weavers through Co-operative Societies.

Shri Damodara Menon: Have the Government of Madras approached the Central Government for any help in this matter?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Specifically, no. But, constant correspondence is going on between the Government of Madras and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in this regard.

Shri Damodara Menon: Are the Government of India prepared to help the workers who have been thrown out of job?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It all depends upon what is the nature of the help that we can give. Such help as we can give, we are always prepared to give.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know whether the Government contemplate formulating in the near future a comprehensive scheme for tackling the problem of handloom weavers and handloom-cloth?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The matter is under consideration.

Shri Raghobachari: May I know the number of people thrown out of employment in Rayalaseema?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I must ask for notice.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether the officer deputed by the Commerce Ministry has submitted his report, and if so, what are his recommendations, and whether Government has taken any action on them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. Member is referring to Malabar, I think I have not sent any officer.

Shri Kelappan: Has Government any scheme for the speedy disposal of this accumulated stock?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Is there any likelihood of export of these accumulated stocks to foreign countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We believe there is a likelihood.

Shri Raghobachari: Has any financial help been granted to Madras State in this connection?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the moment, the Government of India have not considered any scheme to grant any financial help to the State as such. In fact, no such proposal has been made.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Have the Madras Government consulted this Government over reserving certain kinds of yarn for weaving by hand-loom weavers alone?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That happens to be one of the subjects which is under correspondence.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: May I know whether Government are taking any steps to increase the quantity of yarn in this country either by increasing the output in the existing mills, or by the establishment of new mills for that purpose?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The present problem is to consume the yarn that is manufactured. So the question does not arise.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION INTO CEYLON

***2195. Shri Damodara Menon:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been allegations in Ceylon of illegal landings on a

large scale of Indian immigrants on the North Western Coast of Ceylon; and

(b) whether there is any truth in this allegation?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). There have been allegations of large scale illicit emigration from India to Ceylon. It is true that in spite of the best efforts of the Governments of the two countries to check this, some illicit emigration does take place. But the volume of this emigration is nothing like what some statements made in Ceylon might suggest.

Shri Damodara Menon: Are Government aware that these allegations are now made with a view to prejudice the claims of Indians who are now fighting for citizenship rights?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member refers to the intention of the other Government. How could it be replied here?

Shri Damodara Menon: What I wanted to ask was whether Government is aware....

Mr. Speaker: Let him put any question with regard to which this Government can give information.

Shri Damodara Menon: My intention is to ask the Prime Minister whether there has been any official contradiction of these exaggerated reports.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think the hon. Member is right in suggesting that these reports, though exaggerated, have been made with a particular purpose, because these were made about one and a half to two years ago when this question did not arise. It may be said that this kind of, if I may say so, bogey is raised from time to time there. That is a different matter. And we have gone into it, we have had conferences together and statements have been issued, because illicit immigration does take place: there is no doubt about it. The question is of the quantum of it, and it is our desire to stop it, which is as much the Ceylon Government's desire. We do not want our people to go there in that way. This has nothing to do with that, because the question that has been at present raised in Ceylon is in regard to rights of nationality for people who deserve them, because anybody who goes from here cannot anyhow get that right. It is only persons who have been there for generations, who, in fact, are Ceylon nationals, who are concerned in that trouble. Newcomers from here

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whether they go legally or illegally can have no rights of that type.

Shri Damodara Menon: Only a month ago, Sir, a report had been published in Ceylon papers and wide publicity was given to it. That is why I asked whether Government have published any contradiction.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In what press?

Mr. Speaker: In the Ceylon press.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what particular report the hon. Member is referring to, but this kind of thing comes out from time to time there, like an eruption.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether Government keeps a census of the people crossing over to the other side?

Mr. Speaker: There is no question, since it has gone on illegally.

Shri Badshah Gupta: May I know, Sir, what is it in particular that attracts these illegal immigrants?

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether Government is aware of the increase of unemployment in this country which is resulting in the constant emigration of Indians?

Mr. Speaker: I think we are going into arguments.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the hon. Prime Minister is aware that the so-called illegal emigrants who are now going to Ceylon are relatives of Indians who are staying here?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: You mean these people who are going? I have no notion at all; probably not. Some of them might be, normally not.

Shri Venktaraman: May I ask from which part of the country do these people go—south, north, east or west?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Without any exact information, I can say with some certainty, that they go from the south.

Shri Venktaraman: Is it a fact that for a long time between the southern part of India and Ceylon there has been intercourse and relationships between parties, and that casual visits are so much prohibited that they have to resort to illegal emigration?

Mr. Speaker: I think this is nothing but arguing.