

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know if in the mean time a mass retrenchment has already started in the C.P.W.D.?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the hon. Member has already sent a representation on that point, if I mistake not, and the matter is receiving consideration.

Shri S. N. Das: What are the important recommendations of this Committee, may I know?

Mr. Speaker: I think they should better be seen in the Report itself rather than that time should be taken here in reading out long things.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any of these recommendations have already been put into force by the Ministry?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have already stated that the recommendations are being examined. Effect has not yet been given to any of those recommendations. But, as I have already stated, it will be possible to give effect to certain recommendations in about a month's time.

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR INDUSTRIES

*136. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided at the first meeting of the Central Advisory Council of Industries in May 1952 that Development Councils would be set up in respect of seven industries;

(b) if so, whether the Development Councils in respect of these seven industries have been set up; and

(c) the work done by these Development Councils so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know the names of the industries in respect of which Central Development Councils have been formed, and if sugar is one of them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The answer to (b) is not yet.

PRICES ADVISORY BOARD

*137. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Prices Advisory Board was constituted to advise Government on the fixation of prices and on other matters connected with the Supply and Prices of Goods Act;

(b) whether any meeting of the Board has been held after the first meeting held on 31st October, 1950; and

(c) if not, whether Government have reviewed the policy of fixing prices for the goods listed in the Schedule to the Act?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The general principles decided upon in the first meeting of the Prices Advisory Board held on the 31st October 1950 have been followed while fixing specific maximum prices of various scheduled goods. These principles have not been reviewed so far.

JUTE TRADE

*138. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state, in view of the developing crisis in jute trade with U.K. and U.S.A. as per his statement of the 19th August, 1952 in Calcutta, what step Government have taken or propose to take to create jute market in other countries, specially U.S.S.R.?

(b) What quantity of finished jute goods has been sold to countries other than U.K. and U.S.A. during this year?

(c) What is the view of the Indian Jute Mills Association about opening of jute trade with countries other than U.K. and U.S.A., specially with U.S.S.R.?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) It is presumed that the Member is referring to the export of jute goods and not raw jute since the latter is not allowed to be exported. On this assumption the reply is that the Government have reduced the export duty on jute goods and are also allowing exports of jute goods freely. USSR can buy as much jute goods as she likes. I may, however, add that USSR does not usually purchase these goods from India as she has her own jute industry.