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LOK SABHA DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Friday, 26th November, 1954

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MICA

*398. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Sub-Committee constituted for examining the proposal for setting up an export organisation for mica, has been received and considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the decision taken on its recommendation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Mica Advisory Committee, at its meeting on 22nd August, 1953 set up a sub-committee to examine the proposal. The Sub-Committee recommended the formation of an organisation called "The Mica Marketing and Export Corporation Ltd.". The scheme envisaged that all the mica produced in India should be exported only through this Corporation. The Mica Advisory Committee at its meeting held on 21st February, 1954, did not agree with the views of the Sub-Committee and no definite recommendation was, therefore, made to Government.

The Government, however, are considering the formation of an Export Promotion Council for mica.

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Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know whether any steps have been taken to see that the undisposed of mica stocks are disposed of both here and in London?

Shri Karmarkar: My hon. friend will appreciate that only a general attempt could be made. This Export Promotion Council we are hoping will be a good step in that direction.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know how many mica mines went off production in Bihar during the last one year?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: May we know something about the proposed Export Promotion Council to which the hon. Minister just now referred? What will it be like? Will it be controlled by Government, or will it be composed of mica experts?

Shri Karmarkar: It will be on the lines already chalked out in the case, say of the Textile Promotion Council. It will include the principal interests concerned and the exporters of mica and Government will be there to assist them.

MANUFACTURE OF DYES

*400. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to item (ii) of Para 39 at page 160 of the Progress Report of the Five Year Plan for 1953-54 and state:

(a) whether the manufacture of dyes is to be undertaken by the firms referred to in the Report individually

or in collaboration with foreign concerns; and

(b) if it is to be undertaken in collaboration whether Government will place on the Table of the House a copy of the agreements on the Foreign-Indian Partnerships?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Messrs. Indian Dyestuff Industries Ltd., propose to manufacture dyestuffs on their own. Messrs. Amritlal and Co. Ltd., and the I.C.I./Atul Combine propose to manufacture in collaboration with foreign firms.

(b) It will not be fair to the firms concerned to divulge the details of their agreements.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I at least know what is the likely proportion of foreign capital in this undertaking of collaboration?

Shri Kanungo: In one case it is 10 per cent. only.

Shri V. P. Nayar: 10 per cent. of the capital?

Shri Kanungo: Yes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I know whether any profit has been fixed on the foreign capital to be invested here?

Shri Kanungo: No.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I also know whether any target of production and specification of the goods to be produced has been given to the firm?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Specification of the goods that are likely to be produced is contained in the application that they make for a licence. Beyond that we can say nothing more, because these firms have not gone into production.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Am I to take it that all articles which the firms would produce will be accepted like that, or that Government have necessary powers to give orders for specific requirements according to the requirements of national economy?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The latter part of the presumption of the hon. Member is correct.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether Government have knowledge of the dyes that are being used by the adibasias and which are very permanent?

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

BURMA LAND NATIONALISATION (AMENDMENT) ACT

*401. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 680 asked on the 8th September, 1954 and state:

(a) how far the Burma Land Nationalisation (Amendment) Act has affected the Indian landholders there;

(b) whether any representation was made by the Government of India to safeguard the interests of the Indians there; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the representation?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) The Indian landholders assessed the market value of their lands at about Rs. 70 crores. Under the Burma Land Nationalisation (Amendment) Act, 1954, they expect to receive about rupees one crore.

(b) and (c). As the rate of compensation payable under the Burma Land Nationalisation Act was considered inadequate, the Government of India, in December, 1953, sent a delegation to Burma to discuss this question with the Burmese authorities. The Government of Burma, however, did not see their way to increase the rate of compensation.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total acreage of land held by Indians and the total acreage that has been nationalised so far?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As far as our information goes, the land in Indian