

**Co-ordination Board of Ministers**

\*13. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, that a meeting of the Co-ordination Board of Ministers was held in Delhi in October 1955; and

(b) if so the important subjects discussed and decisions arrived at?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No. 4].

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** From the statement I find that the Board has accepted the setting up of the National Construction Corporation. May I know the exact position as regards the setting up of this Corporation?

**Shri Hathi:** A committee has been appointed to work out the details as to how this Corporation should be constructed, what should be its functions and such other things.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** As regards technical personnel, I want to know whether the Committee of Ministers has been set up and whether it has met ever since? What happened to the decision of that special committee?

**Shri Hathi:** That committee has not yet met. It will be seen that the meeting of the Board was held only in October, 1955.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** With regard to the surplus machinery lying at the different River Valley Projects, I want to know whether any concrete result has been achieved as regards the transfer of surplus machinery from one project to another and, if so, where?

**Shri Hathi:** There is a special directorate working in the CWPC which gets all the information about surplus machinery from the different projects and frames lists and circulates them to different projects which require those machinery. As and when they are required the transfer will be made.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the committee that has been set up has been asked to prepare a report before a fixed time?

**Shri Hathi** No time has been fixed

**Silk**

\*14. **Shri Eswara Reddi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Sericulture Board has expressed itself against the import of silk goods with a view to stabilise the prices of silk in the country; and

(b) if so, the reactions of Government in the matter?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) No recent communication from the Central Silk Board has been received in this behalf. The import of Silk fabrics has not been permitted since July-December 1954, period.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Eswara Reddi:** May I know for how many years this restriction on import of silk will be continued?

**Shri Karmarkar:** In future? It is too much to ask and too much to say now. We do not disclose future possibilities.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know how and to what extent the substitutes to silk like rayon and other materials are competing and what steps Government are taking to avert undesirable competition?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Sir, it is a fact that rayon is competing. Regarding the step that we are taking, my hon. friend may as well refer to the latest report of the Silk Board which is in the library of the House, which gives full information.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know the present supply position of raw silk to the handloom weavers?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I should like to have notice.

**National Industrial Development Corporation**

\*15. **Shri Gopal Rao:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 482 on the 19th August, 1955 and state the details of the investigations made so far by the National Industrial Development Corporation into the projects relating to the manufacture of machine tools, diesel engines and generators in the country?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The National Industrial Development Corporation have expressed the view that a detailed investigation should