Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

Oral Answers

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether there was any provision in the budget of the board for its participation in the fair, and whether the sanction of the board was taken before such participation?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I can only presume that the executive committee of the board did give sanction.

Dr. Rama Rao: The statement contains a very intriguing item of expenditure of Rs. 41,741 on 'construction and decoration of staff'. May I know how the staff was decorated?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I should plead guilty for a typographical error. It is not 'staff', but 'stall'.

Shri Radha Raman: In the statement we find that a sum of Rs. 91.172 has been spent on this. Have Government assessed whether as a result of this expenditure, the Tea Board has been able to make more persons addicted to tea?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Propaganda can never be assessed in real terms, and quickly. We only have an assessment of the general effect, and we hope that the general effect has been good.

पटसन मिल

*१३२१. भी राम शंकर लाल : क्या वाणिज्य मीर उच्चोग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या १९५५ में पटसन मिलों में करघों की संख्या में कुछ कमी हुई है ;

(ल) यदि हां, तो कितनी कमी हुई है भ्रौर उसका क्या कारण है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री कानुनगो): (क)तथा(ख). १९४४ में करघों की संख्या ७२,६२४ थी जबकि १६५३ में इनकी संख्या ७२,७०२ थी । समय समय पर मिलों में जो साधारण हेर फेर हुआ करते हैं; उनके ही कारण ७७ करघों की यह कमी हुई है।

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether the number of working hours has also been reduced?

Shri Kanungo: No, it has not been reduced. More looms have been unsealed.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know the percentage of looms that have been put into operation, out of the 12 per cent looms that were sealed out after partition?

Shri Kanungo: $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the looms have been unsealed.

INFILTRATION OF MUSLIMS FROM SYLHET

*1323. Shri S. C. Deb: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is infiltration of Pakistan Muslims from Sylhet (East Pakistan) into Indian territory without passport by the border of Cachar District, Assam;

(b) whether some such persons were convicted:

(c) whether it is also a fact that a propaganda is being carried on by Pakistani Muslims of taking over some portions of Cachar District into Pakistan as reported in the Anand Bazar Patrika, Calcutta dated the 21st March, 1956; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to counteract that move?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). A report of the infiltration of Pakistan Muslims has been received. The Assam Government have been asked to investigate the matter, Their report is awaited.

(c) and (d). Government have no information. The report will be looked into.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether there is any concentration of Pakistani forces in some of the border areas on that side?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: On their side? I have seen allegations in the Pakistan papers about concentration of forces on this side of the border. I can give this assurance that there has been no concentration of our Defence personnel on our side of the border. and we hope, and I would like to

think, that there is no such concentration on their side of the border also.

Shri Kamath: Should like to think?

Shri S. C. Deb: Is it a fact that the survey work for the demarcation of the boundaries has suddenly been abandoned by the Pakistan side, because it was realised that some of the portions that were adversely occupied by Pakistan would come over to India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The survey work has been going on for some time; off and on, there is a lull in the activities of the survey work. There may be some temporary suspension, but I would not think that it has been suspended, because, some of the territories might to come to us.

Shrimati Khongmen: Are Government aware whether any encroachment has been made by the Pakistanis at several points along the border of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills district?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The border has not been properly demarcated. There are certain disputed areas in this sector. It may be that there has been some encroachment, but I have no immediate information.

Shrimati Khongmen: I mean encroachment on the Indian border.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I said that there may be. But I have not got precise information. In certain points, the area is disputed territory.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member evidently wants to know about encroachment on the admittedly Indian border.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: If it is admittedly Indian territory, I am sure we would not allow any violation of our boundary.

Shri Kamath: The Minister said, if I heard him aright, that he would like to think that there is no concentration of forces on the Pakistan side of the border. Are our intelligence

services and other sources of information so poor that the Minister cannot give exact information on this point, but would only like to think or indulge in wishful thinking?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am sure he will concede that it may not be always desirable to give publicity to what information comes to us through our intelligence source.

Shri C. D. Pande: Are Government aware that in view of the large volume of exodus of Hindus added to this exodus of Muslims, a population problem will be created in this country? At the same time, in view of the strained relations between the two countries, will Government take greater care in scrutinising the entry of such foreigners who might come, for example, with a mischievous purpose?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Every precaution is taken. But I may inform the House that the boundary is such that there are innumerable cases where one hutment of a household may have gone to Pakistan while the other buildings are in India and vice versa. It is very difficult to guard every inch of the territory.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: No precaution is taken to check the infiltration of Muslims into Assam.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member giving information or asking for it?

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: I am neither giving information nor asking for it. I am contradicting the hon. Deputy Minister.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: His information and mine do not tally.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: Because I have first-hand information and he has not.

Mr. Speaker: Naturally, everybody is interested in the welfare of the State. Therefore, if any hon. Member has got information on such points as this, where the hon. Minister may differ, it is better if that detailed information is given privately.