

Shri Karmarkar : Exclusively by the Central Government.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha : May I know whether this State trading corporation will also enter into the field of the private sector that is now carrying on the import and export trade of the country, and how far the trade carried on by the private sector will be affected by this corporation?

Shri Karmarkar : I did anticipate such questions, and that is why I read out the general object. If that includes private interests somewhere, it may. It all depends on what articles we taken up for State trading. It is premature for me to say anything more at the present moment.

Shri Bansal : May I know whether even before this corporation has been incorporated, some agreements have been entered into in the name of this corporation with certain foreign countries for the import of certain materials?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No. The agreements have been entered into between foreign countries and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, with the rider that when the corporation is incorporated, it will take over the responsibility for implementing those agreements.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha : I was asking specifically about the essential goods like machinery, textiles, jute etc. How far will the trade in those goods be affected by the State trading corporation? Could Government give us some idea about that?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : I am afraid we are not in a position to enlighten the hon. Member, any more than what my colleague has done.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT WORKS

***2169. Shri Keshavaiengar :** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to sanction two schemes every year submitted by the Members of Parliament under the local development works scheme in their respective constituencies directly ;

(b) the number of such schemes that are submitted by Members and the number sanctioned ; and

(c) the progress made in respect of the two schemes so sanctioned at Avalahalli and Dayanandanagar in Blore Nath ?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to sanction any definite number of Local Works Schemes every year submitted by the Members of Parliament for direct grants-in-aid from the Centre.

(b) Out of 21 schemes received from Members of Parliament 13 were approved for direct financial assistance.

(c) The construction of the Community Hall at Avalahalli is complete except for flooring and plastering. As regards the other scheme relating to the construction of a store shed at Dayanandanagar, the foundation and basement have been completed.

Shri Keshavaiengar : Are Government aware of the fact that in spite of the hearty response of the people in these two localities, and in spite of the construction put up by them in these project buildings, further progress is held up because of the non-payment of the contribution from the Centre ?

Shri S. N. Mishra : I do not know what the hon. Member means by contribution from the Centre, because now, the entire amount is given by the State; and part payment has certainly been made by the State Government in cases where work has been done.

Shri Keshavaiengar : In these projects, 50 per cent. of the cost estimated has been contributed by the Centre. If so, are Government aware whether that amount has come to be paid ?

Shri S. N. Mishra : Which schemes does the hon. Member have in mind ?

Shri Keshavaiengar : Avalahalli and Dayanandanagar.

Shri S. N. Mishra : I may submit that to the extent the work has been completed, payment has been made, in both the cases.

Shri Bansal: Are Government aware that in spite of the great enthusiasm for small-scale schemes, the main difficulty in the way of the villagers is the absence of suitable persons who can prepare schemes for them, namely architects or engineers, and if so, will Government think of some action to be taken so that these people could approach at least at the district level certain architects honorarily appointed by Government?

Shri S. N. Mishra: That may be one of the difficulties experienced by the rural people. To what extent assistance can be rendered would be a matter for consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when this idea of sanctioning two schemes every year on behalf of the Members of Parliament has come into being, how it was made known to the Members of the Parliament, how many Members sent in their schemes and how those schemes were sanctioned?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many questions are to be put together at one time?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I want to know about the genesis of the scheme, and whether all the Members of Parliament....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That can be done at a separate moment, and not in the form of one question.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any limit has been fixed for the schemes to be taken up directly and to be sanctioned directly from here?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I could not catch the question.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any financial limit has been fixed for the sanctioning of any particular scheme given by the Members of Parliament for execution in these local works?

Shri S. N. Mishra: As I have submitted already, there is no such proposal to give grants for the schemes sponsored by the Members of Parliament. So, that question does not arise.

EXPORT OF FISH

***2170. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendation of the Export Promotion Committee to do away with the restricted quota and licence for the export of fish from India has been accepted;

(b) if so, whether the quantity of export has increased; and

(c) if not, how the grant of licenses and quota are being regulated?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether by doing away with this licence the quantity of export has increased?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, the quantity has sometimes been shifting. For instance, in 1952-53, the quantity was 559,000 cwts. In 1954-55, it was 487,000 cwts. In 1955 (April to February) for ten months, it has been 382,000 cwts. It has been shifting, but generally on the increase.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether by doing away with this licence, any complaint from any importing country has been received as regards the quality of the fish?

Shri Karmarkar: No. Our fish is quite good. I have received no complaints.

Shri Nanadas: May I know what are the facilities provided to the fishermen living in the East coast to export their catch to East Pakistan directly without the help of middlemen?

Shri Karmarkar: I could not answer that question offhand, nor am I able to understand its import, unless the hon. Member advises us to have co-operatives for fishermen or something like that. Regarding licensing, they can send any fish to any country they like.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister said that the export of fish had increased. I want to know whether this increase has been in respect of