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Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether it is the intention of Government to have a magazine for each fertiliser factory?

Shri R. G. Dubey : I could not say that about the other concerns, but for the present we have made a beginning so far as the Sindri Fertilisers are concerned.

ठाकर युगल किशोर सिंह : क्या मै जान सकता हं.....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदयः इस पर तीन सप्लीमेंटरी पूछे जा चुके है।

MATCH INDUSTRY

*347 Shri Veeraswamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about 60 Match factories in Sattur and Sivakasi area in Madras State have decided to stop production from March, 1956, if Government do not establish a Central Marketing Organization for hand made matches; and

(b) if so, the action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A resolution to this effect has apparently been passed at a meeting of the owners of these match factories.

(b) The factories are largely B class factories owned by private individuals. Government have suggested that they should float a Joint-Stock Company for the purpose of marketing their products. The difficulty seems to be that they could not get together for this purpose.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether any representation has been received from the match manufacturers requesting Government to establish a marketing society, so that they could compete with the Western India Match Manufacturing Company?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, some people saw me recently about it.

Shri Natarajan: Is it not a fact that WIMCO had increased their sales through their powerful marketing organisation by reducing the prices in the South?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information to that effect.

Shri Natarajan: Is it a fact that there was a gentleman's agreement between Government and the WIMCO at the time of the Taxation Enquiry Commission early in the thirties, that the WIMCO should restrict their production to 50 per cent. of the all-India consumption, and the balance should be reserved for the hand-made industry, and if so, may I know whether Government are taking any steps to implement that?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know the total number of factories manufacturing matches in India, and the number of people employed in them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That question does not arise out of this.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether it is not a fact that the match. manufacturers are not supplied even wagons to export match-boxes from their area to other areas?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I amafraid this question must be addressed to the Minister of Railways.

Shri Velayadhan: May I know what will happen to the large number of employees working there, in view of Government's decision to stop production of goods by them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid my hon. friend has mistaken the question. Government have not decided to stop anything. Private manufacturers who have been making money by employing these people and producing matches have said, "Unless something is done, we shall close down".

I might add for the information of the House, because the House seems to be interested in this matter, that about three and a half years back, we made an attempt to bring these people together. In fact, I went down to Madras myself. But these factories did not want to put out any money themselves; they wanted Government to put out all the money. And Government cannot operate this body under any existing scheme governing co-operative enterprises because there is exploitation, so far as these factories are concerned. Subsequently, the position of the industry was very good, the matches were selling well, and they were prosperous, and then they forgot all about it. Now again when the downward trend has started, they think that Government must put out their money.

Government are quite prepared to help any co-operative enterprise, but they cannot give help to enterprises where the main motive is that of making profits.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know what action has been taken by Government since the passing of this resolution, to provide them with marketing facilities which, it appears from the resolution, they have been demanding?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Again, my hon. friend is not correctly informed about the position. I have explained for about two. minutes what the position is. Somebody passes a resolution which means committing Government to an expenditure of Rs. 40 lakhs; well, no action is possible on that. Those people must help themselves. If they say that they shall put out money to the tune of Rs. 35 or 30 or even 25 lakhs, then I can possibly ask the Industrial Finance Corporation or the State Finance Corporation to help them. But Government cannot find the money in the case of an industry where profit is the main motive.

INDIANS IN RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

*349. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland have passed legislations which restrict the movements of Indians from one territory to the other; and

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(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Under Section 4(1) (c) of the Southern Rhodesian Inter-Territorial Movement of Persons (Control) Act, 1954, any person who is born or resident in Northern Rhodesia or Nyasaland and who is not a European or a Native is prohibited from entering Southern Rhodesia. Thus, the entry into Southern Rhodesia of Indians residing in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland has been restricted. No such restriction has been imposed on Indians living anywhere in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland by the Governments of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

(b) The Government of India have not found it possible to take any steps in the matter.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of Southern Rhodesia have given a definite assurance at the time of the information of this Federation that no racial discrimination policy will be followed, and if so, whether the Government of India have written to that effect to the Government of the Central African Federation?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am not quite sure if any such assurance was given by the Government of Southern Rhodesia. In fact, I would be surprised if there was any, because there is an Act from 1924 onwards virtually banning the immigration of Indians into Southern Rhodesia.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether there was a general assurance that no definite racial discrimination policy would be followed in the Central African Federation, and if so, whether the Government of India have written to that effect to the Government of the Central African Federation?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have already said that I am not aware of any such assurance.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): If I may say so, vague stato-

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