

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May I know whether the Government consider that the question with regard to tea is urgent and whether they consider that urgent decisions should be taken in the light of the importance of this question?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** As a matter of fact, the Tea Board is immediately considering this report tomorrow in Coonoor.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May I know whether the Government consider that the consideration of this report by the Tea Board is sufficient, or, whether some other agency would also be considering this report?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** Government itself is considering the report. The recommendations of the Tea Board are also awaited.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** In view of the fact that the entire policy in regard to plantations and also labour welfare and other things for the second Five Year Plan has already been enunciated by Government, may I know whether it is proposed to make any changes in the plan in the light of the Commission's report?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** The terms of reference of the Commission are comprehensive and all aspects of tea, coffee and rubber, including labour welfare, have been included in the terms of reference.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** My question has not been answered. My question was whether the Government are going to effect any change in the Second Plan period so far as plantation industries are concerned since the recommendations of the Commission may affect the Second Five Year Plan in respect of these industries.

**Shri M. M. Shah:** It will be premature to anticipate the recommendations of the Commission, or the decisions of Government thereon, but all efforts will be made to see that the promotional activities of the Second Five Year Plan are not disturbed at all.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the views of the State Governments concerned, on the report on the tea industry, have also been obtained, and if so, may I know whether they will find a place in the report itself?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** I have already indicated that a copy of the report will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to place copies of the report on the Table of the House at an early date.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** My question was whether the views of the State Government have been obtained on the report.

**Shri M. M. Shah:** The Assam Government, the Travancore-Cochin Government, the Mysore Government, the Madras Government and the West Bengal Government will be consulted.

**झींगा मछली (ग्रान) का निर्यात**

\*१२२४. डा० राम सुभग सिंह : क्या बालिष्य और उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बर्मा की सरकार ने केरल (भारत) की झींगा मछली के आयात पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया है ;

(ख) इस व्यवसाय में कितने व्यक्ति लगे थे और निर्यात पर रोक लगने के फलस्वरूप कितने व्यक्ति बेरोजगार हो गये हैं; और

(ग) क्या केरल की झींगा मछली के लिये बर्मा के प्रतिरिक्त दूसरे देशों में बाजार ढूँढने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है ?

**व्यापार मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) :** (क) इस समय बर्मा में झींगा मछली का आयात लायसेंस के अन्तर्गत करने दिया जाता है।

(ख) इसकी ठीक ठीक जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ग) जी, हाँ। लेकिन मुझे आशा है कि दूसरे देशों को इसका निर्यात होने की अधिक गुंजाइश नहीं है।

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** The English answer may also be read.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister may read the English answer.

**Shri Karmarkar:** (a) Imports of prawn fish into Burma are at present permitted under licence.

(b) Precise information is not available.

(c) Yes, Sir. But I am afraid there is not much scope for exports.

I may add that private information shows that the number of persons employed is estimated to be from 5 to 8 lakhs. Officially, I have no precise information.

**Shri Achuthan:** The hon. Minister said that import is permitted by licence system. May I know how much prawn has been exported from India to Burma under the licence system during 1955-56 and whether.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Only one question at a time.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I appreciate the hon. Member's question, because this is a source of anxiety to us also. From October to April, in the year 1955-56, the imports have been only worth Rs. 16 lakhs during the seven months, October to September, whereas, for the whole year 1954-55, in terms of value it was Rs. 1,12,00,000.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether the Government of India represented to the Burmese Government that this licensing system should be dropped and *status quo* should be restored?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The whole situation has arisen on account of the fact that the Burmese Government have deliberately restricted the import of prawn into Burma. Naturally, because it gives employment to a number of people in Travancore-Cochin, we have gone into the matter. We are taking up the matter repeatedly with the Burmese Government; a trade mission is expected here and we are bound to take this matter up with them also.

**Shri Velayudhan:** We have given a lot of loans to the Burmese Government; has the matter been pressed from that point of view?

**Shri Karmarkar:** There is no question of any advantage because of the loans which we have given; this is apart from the loans. This is a matter of mutual trade between the two countries. As I said, it is a matter of concern to us also. We have repeatedly brought it to the notice of the Burmese Government and we shall take it up with the trade mission also.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In view of the fact that prawn is a perishable commodity, and we do not have suitable storage equipment, may I know what encouragement Government propose to give to the industry?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Regarding the encouragement to this industry, firstly, we have taken some aid from foreign countries in this matter for more efficient fishing. For instance, we are taking assistance from the Technical Cooperation Mission in the shape of trawlers and some equipment for ice and cold storage plant. We get some aid from the Norwegian Aid Programme also in the shape of some trawlers. Thirdly, in the Second Five Year Plan, it is proposed to set up a Central Deep-Sea Fishing Station for exploring off-shore fishing grounds for shrimps and other fish.

**Shri Matthen:** The hon. Minister has stated that the export of prawn this year is less than that of last year. May I ask whether the hon. Minister knows

that this is due mainly to the new licences given by the Burmese Government to People's China for the import of prawn which Burma has been getting entirely from Travancore-Cochin for the last 50 years or more?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Our present information does not enable us to be certain as to whether or not it is a fact that they had given any licences to China. Our present information is that they gave some licences for export of prawn from China, but those licences are bound to be given to the same degree to other countries. But, we are awaiting further report.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is it not true that on account of the peculiar financial stresses on Burma, the Burmese Government has had to tighten its belt for its people?

**Shri Karmarkar:** It may be that they are in difficulty, but we also have our difficulty and we are bound to press our difficulties a little more than theirs.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Arising out of the reply to part (c) of the question, may I know whether Government has made any attempt to explore the prawn market in U.S.A.

**Shri Karmarkar:** Yes, Sir; our figures for the last three years show that there is a slight increase in the export of prawn to U.S.A. For instance, in terms of rupees, during 1953, our export was Rs. 52,508; during 1954, Rs. 1,56,801 and during 1955, Rs. 2,68,349. These are the figures and we shall be happy to do all that we possibly can to promote such export; if any facilities are required, we shall consider them.

### Textile Industry

**\*1225. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether there is any likelihood of talks being held between the representatives of the textile Industry of India and Britain?

**The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah):** Yes, Sir.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the basis of the talks which are going to be held between the representatives?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** The talks will be generally regarding the import and export of cloth between the two countries?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the question of further reducing the tariff duty on imported cloth from Britain will also be considered?

**Shri M. M. Shah:** That is a reciprocal arrangement and we should not fo