

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that this managing agency firm in Calcutta, Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Company, was controlling the entire operations from the time the ship comes out of the port, till the time it is dismantled, may I know whether the experienced staff of this company will be taken over for our own shipping agencies, which are going to be expanded?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): No notice has been served on the staff. I do not know why there is anxiety that any staff is going out.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: This company is paying pension and retirement benefit from current revenues. In view of the fact that this company will be restricting its activities and in view also of the fact that the revenue authorities have stated that they will not allow this pension to be paid by the company out of the assessable profits, may I know whether the pension will not be paid henceforth?

Shri Morarji Desai: There is no information; and no reply can be given on a hypothetical case.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It is not a hypothetical case.

Shri Morarji Desai: It is a hypothetical case.

Photographic Material

+

*1038. { **Shri D. A. Katti:**
Shri Dige:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to manufacture the photographic sensitised materials;

(b) whether it is a fact that an inadequate quota of photographic sensitised materials has been given to the Mysore State;

(c) whether any memorandum adopted by the Mysore State Photographers Association, Bangalore, has been received by Government in this behalf; and

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

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Import quotas are not fixed State-wise, but import policy is framed in accordance with the requirements of the country as a whole.

(c) No representation was received by the Government. The State Trading Corporation office at Calcutta and Mysore State Government are, however reported to have received representations from this Association.

(d) On receipt of several such representations, the import policy for these goods was reviewed and supplementary licences are now being issued.

Shri D. A. Katti: May I know whether it is a fact that the due to want of photographic sensitised materials many studios are being closed down in Mysore State?

Shri Manubhai Shah: They are facing hardship. There is no doubt about that.

Shri Dasappa: May I know by what percentage the import of these materials has been cut down and to what extent it will affect the employment potential?

Shri Manubhai Shah: If I may say in a broad way—because the exact classification of the different sensitised materials is not separately kept—it can be said to be less than 40-50 per cent of the normal import. To that extent, the hardship is real. But, as far as the employment part is concerned, out of the 20,000 and odd people engaged in this with different studios, laboratories and establishments, I do not think any serious dislocation has so far taken place.

Headload Workers at Cochin Port

*1039. **Shri Kodiyam:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the employers of headload work-