

**CACHAR TEA PLANTATION ENQUIRY
COMMITTEE REPORT.**

*1253. **Shri S. C. Deb:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken on the report of Cachar Tea Plantation Enquiry Committee set up by the Government of India two years ago;

(b) whether Government propose to take any further action on the proposed objectives for which the committee was set up;

(c) whether it is a fact that two experts have been deputed by Government to examine the condition of tea industry; and

(d) if so, what is the main reason for such deputation, whether to study the economic position of employers or the economic condition of labour or both?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). The main recommendations of the Cachar Plantation Enquiry Committee were divided into two groups, viz:

(i) Technical recommendations which dealt with the general improvement of the yield and soil of the tea gardens; and

(ii) Recommendations regarding conversion of food concessions into cash, which were not unanimous, the workers' representatives dissenting.

The technical recommendations were commended to the planters' associations and the Government of Assam for their consideration and necessary action. The employers and workers have also since arrived at an agreed decision regarding conversion of food concessions into cash in certain uneconomic gardens in Cachar. So far as other gardens are concerned, the question was further considered at more than one tripartite conference but no agreement could be reached between employers and workers. Consequent on the recent fall in tea prices, the industry has reiterated the demand for conversion of food concessions into cash and the matter is under consideration.

(c) and (d). Government have appointed a team of two officials assisted by a Cost Accounts Officer to investigate into the difficulties that are being experienced by the tea industry owing to the recent fall in prices and to recommend measures of relief.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR ENQUIRY

262. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement containing the information per-

taining to the Agricultural Labour Enquiry?

(b) What is the progress made since 1950?

(c) Do Government propose to place a copy of the revised comprehensive questionnaire under all the three parts on the Table of the House?

(d) Has the enquiry been completed in all the three stages in all the States where the enquiry was being made?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 28.]

(c) Copies of the comprehensive questionnaire and instructions are already available in the Library of Parliament. [See No. P-56/52.]

(d) Yes.

TRADE DELEGATIONS

263. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the number of trade delegations sent abroad during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 (upto 30th April, 1952) along with the personnel of the delegation and its purpose in each case?

(b) What countries did they visit and how long did they stay there?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 29.]

JUTE

264. **Shri Meghnad Saha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total figures in lacs of bales for the arrivals of raw jute in Calcutta and other Indian Mill Centres outside West Bengal from (i) the Indian Union, and from (ii) Pakistan year by year from 1947-48 upto 1951-52;

(b) the total season-ending stocks in the hands of balers, dealers and growers in the Jute-growing areas of the Indian Union for the same period year by year;

(c) whether it is a fact that huge quantities of raw jute from other countries are now being sold in India as Indian jute due to big difference in price; and

(d) if so, what the figures for the last six months are?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Information is given in a statement attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 30.]