

Indian Delegation to Japan

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 *1291. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das :**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh
Shri Shivanaajappa :

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the official Indian delegation which visited Japan to discuss the supply of Indian ore to Japan has returned to India;

(b) if so, the result of such discussions; and

(c) the decision in this respect, if any?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). An understanding has been reached between Japan and India for purchase and sale of iron ore for the period from 1957-58 to 1961-62.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : May I know whether the deal will be on Government to Government basis or Government to private agency basis?

Shri Karmarkar : So far as I can see at the moment it is between the State Trading Corporation on our side and a combination of purchasers on the other in Japan.

Shri Kamath : Was the possibility of negotiating this matter with the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi explored before it was decided to waste public money on sending a delegation abroad?

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member could as well omit the words "waste public money".

Shri Kamath : All right I will say "spend" public money.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member ought not to come to a conclusion before he hears the answer and decides whether it is a waste or otherwise.

Shri Karmarkar : I am very sorry he is much in a wrong box on this question, because the delegation went to Japan for a conference and along with that work without any extra expenditure they could conclude this deal.

Shri Kamath : No. expenditure?

Mr. Speaker : They went for another purpose; they did this incidentally. Therefore, no extra expenditure was incurred.

Shri R. P. Garg : Since Japan is a permanent buyer of our iron ore, May I know whether the possibility was explored of Japan putting up a smelting plant in India, exporting a portion of the finished goods to Japan, leaving the remaining portions in India for home consumption.

Shri Karmarkar : That is a suggestion which I shall convey to the relevant quarters.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : What are the terms of agreement of this deal? Will Japan supply consumer goods to India=

Shri Karmarkar : It is not correlated to other conditions. But we do expect Japan to respond by supplying whatever we want.

Shri R. P. Garg : May I know whether Japan sometime back gave this offer to India?

Shri Karmarkar : Let me make it quite clear that on our side this particular deal has been entered into by the State Trading Corporation and on the other side by private purchasers. So there is no question of a deal between India and Japan interpreted in terms of two States.

Shri Sarangadhar Das : May I know if some Japanese companies in return for cars to be imported by them from Orissa are planning to build the Paradwip Port?

Shri Karmarkar : Some talks about helping the transport situation in Orissa went on last year but I do not think that it has progressed now.

Oil Supplies

*1293. **Shri Kajrolkar :** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the Suez Canal crisis has affected the supplies of oil to this country;

(b) whether the supplies of crude oil to the refineries set up in this country have been kept up;

(c) if not, what alternative sources Government propose to tap in order to keep the refineries in operation to full capacity; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to build up sufficient stocks of oil to meet the requirements of the country in all eventualities?