

**Shri Karmarkar :** My submission at the moment is, a majority of the replanting and fresh planting will be in Kerala but I should like to have notice for specific figures regarding a particular State.

**Shri Joachim Alva :** Has the Government sent out inspectors to the fertile Malaya rubber regions so that our growers in Kerala may have the benefit of their experience and training there?

**Shri Karmarkar :** It is a sort of a delegation to Malaya.

**Shri Joachim Alva :** I meant observers to study the conditions there.

**Shri Karmarkar :** Yes, observers, I just put it in another way. My notes do not show any scheme of sending anybody. If the hon. Member pursues the matter and if we find it useful, we might consider it.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi :** May I know why no attempt is being made to plant rubber in North-East India where the climate is similar to that of Travancore-Cochin

**Shri Karmarkar :** We rely on experts for this purpose and do not take decisions as laymen. Simply similarity of climate is not enough; similarity of geophysical conditions is also there. If my friend has any specific suggestions to make with regard to North-East Frontier including Assam, and if there are possibilities, we shall consider them.

**Shri Punnoose :** Are Government aware that there is a serious apprehension among the rubber cultivators that the proposal for the production of synthetic rubber might ruin the position of natural rubber and if so, are Government in a position to clarify their policy that the interests of growers of natural rubber will be protected even if they open a factory?

**Shri Karmarkar :** There is no ground for such an apprehension because synthetic rubber production is being contemplated with a view to fill in the gap between the possible production and the possible requirements.

### Film Production

\*457. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan :**  
**Sardar Iqbal Singh :**  
**Sardar Akarpuri :**

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state :

(a) how many film producing units and studios are working now in India and how many in each province; and

(b) how many cinema theatres are there in India upto date at present?

**The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar) :** (a) There is no legal provision for the registration of producing units for studios and therefore complete and accurate statistics are not available. However, according to the Report of the Film Enquiry Committee, there were 211 film producing units and about 60 studios in 1948. A trade publication bought out in 1956 gives the latest figures as 300 and 65 respectively.

(b) The number of cinemas including touring talkies is about 3,600.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan :** May I know whether the Government of India have considered the recommendations of the Film Enquiry Committee contained in their report of 1951, and if so, what are the decisions arrived at?

**Shri Pataskar :** I think I will require notice to answer that question.

**Sardar Iqbal Singh :** May I know the number of cinemas and the number of touring talkies separately?

**Shri Pataskar :** I have not got those figures separately here with me.

**Sardar Iqbal Singh :** May I know whether the Government has got its own studio for the production of films; if not the centre where it is going to be situated?

**Shri Pataskar :** I would require notice of that, because that is not covered by the main question.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** May I know in what way Government are assisting film producing units in the country?

**Shri Pataskar :** By all means that they could follow.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** I would request the hon. Members to reserve their questions for the future, till the time when the Minister concerned is present here.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan :** When there is an important question like this and when the Minister in charge is not present, I think attempting to answer the question by another Minister who will not be able to meet the questions is not proper.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** Honest attempts are to be made, but if they are not successful to the degree that we expect them, certainly we have to postpone it for some other day, but it cannot be laid down to that no other Minister should attempt an answer. In this matter, it is also significant that the Minister has no deputy to assist him. Therefore, we should proceed. The Minister of Legal Affairs is trying his best.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan :** It may be postponed for another day.

**Shri Pataskar :** I should like to point out that the comment made by the hon. Member is not fair, for the simple reason that the question asked is, "How many film producing units and studios are working now in India?". The answer is given. Again, "How many cinema theatres are there in India upto date at present"? The answer for that also was given.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** I do not agree with the hon. Minister there, if he reads the answer and says that this much information alone has been asked. Supplementaries certainly do relate to the questions that have been tabled and asked. Therefore, we cannot confine only to the main question that has been put. Next question.

#### Indian Made Paper

\*458. **Shri Ramachandra Reddi :** Will the Minister of Heavy Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that large stocks of certain varieties of Indian made paper are left unsold due to the free import of the same varieties from foreign countries; and

(b) what are the unsold varieties and the value of such stocks?

**The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri B. S. Murthy :** May I know whether the Andhra Paper Mills have made any representation that paper made there to the tune of Rs. 10 lakhs is lying waste and that nobody is there to purchase it because of imports?

**Shri M. M. Shah :** There is a representation received from the Andhra Paper Mills though not from the Andhra State Government which owns the paper factory. The fact of the matter is that the accumulation is not as large as the hon. Member points out. Actually speaking, the Andhra Paper Mills manufacture only five per cent of the craft paper consumed in the country and 95 per cent of the craft paper is produced by other mills. None of the producers of the 95 per cent of craft paper has made any complaint as regard the saleability. So obviously, the reason is that the quality of the paper made by the Andhra Paper Mills is rather inferior and that is why a little accumulation has taken place there.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi :** May I know whether any representations have been received from the traders at Madras who have purchased the craft paper from Andhra Paper Mills and that they have not been able to sell them for the simple reason that imported goods are sold cheaper and at competitive rates? What steps do the Government contemplate to promote the sale of such accumulated stocks?

**The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) :** Our normal policy is that we take great care to see to it that the indigenous industry does not suffer on account of over-imports, and particularly so in view of the present foreign exchange conditions.

**श्रीमति कमलेश्वरीशाह :** क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि जिस प्रकार कि देश में कागज की जरूरत है उसको देखते हुए उसके बास्ते बांस को जितना ज्यादा हो सके कल्टीवेट किया जाये क्योंकि चाहना और जापान . .

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** "क्योंकि" को छोड़ दीजिये बाकी सवाल पूछिये ।

**Shri M. M. Shah :** Regarding the suggestion of the hon. lady Member, I might say that all efforts are being made to increase the production. As my hon. colleague mentioned, actually, there is a complete restriction of the import of paper weighing more than 39 grams per square metre and it is only for better and lighter paper that an import of a certain quantity is allowed for the users. As I said, none of the people who manufacture 95 per cent of the paper—the Andhra Paper Mills manufacture only five per cent—have complained about the saleability or about the difficulty in marketing in the country. The Andhra Paper Mills produce only five per cent and that obviously shows that there are more than one reason for the non-sale, and it is not the import policy which alone is responsible.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** May I know whether the Government are going to revise the import policy in view of the fact that this factory—the Andhra Paper Mills—is very seriously affected by this import policy, and is it a fact that the Andhra Paper Mills manufacture?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** Only one question might be put.

**Shri M. M. Shah :** As I have already said, we costently review the position and if and have necessary, further restrictions are always imposed.