

उन हरिजनों के बारे में भारत सरकार ने और प्रागे क्या कार्यवाही की है जिनको पाकिस्तान से इस बहाने पर भारत नहीं आने दिया गया था कि वे हिन्दू नहीं हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : The matter is still being pursued.

Shri B. S. Murthy : In view of the fact that this question has been pending for long and there are reports in the papers that the Harijans who want to come over to India are being not only allowed to come but also being persecuted and harassed, may I know what immediate steps are being taken by the Government to relieve the situation ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : The Pakistan Government are persisting in their attitude that the same facilities that are given to the Hindus and Sikhs desiring to migrate from Pakistan cannot be given to the Harijans.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : If the Pakistan Government is persisting in this attitude, namely, that the same facilities should not be given to the Harijans, may I know whether the Government of India will categorically state that the Nehru-Liaquat Pact is dead ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : We are considering our next step in the matter.

Shri Kasliwal : The hon. Deputy Minister said that the same living conditions are not applicable to the Harijans the Hindus. May I know whether any communication has been addressed to the Pakistan Government stating that the living conditions of Harijans must be improved ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : This matter has continually been taken up with the West Punjab Government. As recently as in the month of October, our High Commissioner has seen the Chief Minister of the West Punjab Government on this matter.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : May I know the total number of Harijans in West Pakistan and the number of those who want to migrate to India ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : We have no information in this matter. But in the camp there are 138 Harijans still staying.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : The hon. Deputy Minister said that the position regarding the Nehru-Liaquat agreement was still under consideration. May I know when this will be decided ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : As far as the Nehru-Liaquat agreement is concerned, it refers to East Bengal.

Shrimati Sushama Sen : May I know why the Harijans are not given the same facilities as the Hindus and why ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Should that be decided by us now ? That is the view that is held by the Pakistan Government. Our Government are not taking that view and they are discussing it with the Pakistan Government.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi : May I know whether the Government have made any enquiries whether these Harijans are given any employment by the Pakistan Government and if so, what sort of employment is given to them ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : These particular people are in the camps. There are many more Harijans living in West Pakistan.

Shri Jaipal Singh : May I know what reasons have been given by the Pakistan Government for not considering the Harijans as part of the Hindu community ? If they have given any reasons, what are they ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : No theological reasons have been given by them. They hold that the Harijans are distinct from the Hindu community.

Export of Shoes to Russia

*464. **Shri Kajrolkar :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been reached with the Government of Soviet Russia for the export of a million pairs of shoes ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any portion of the orders for the manufacture of the required number of shoes will be fulfilled through hereditary shoemakers and their co-operatives ;

(d) if so, the proportion of such orders to be fulfilled through such shoemakers and their co-operatives ; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) is in the affirmative, whether Government propose to extend financial aid to the persons concerned in order to enable them to fulfil the orders ?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) to (c) : An agreement has been made by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Limited with the U.S.S.R. for the export of shoes worth Rs. 1,18,05,000. Deliveries will be completed by the end of February, 1957. A major portion of the supplies will be made through National Small Industries Corporation who will execute the orders through

Cooperative Societies. Small shoemaking establishments as well as individual shoemakers. Government have given a loan of Rs. 25 lakhs to the Corporation to help it organise production.

Shri Kajrolkar : May I know whether any quotas have been laid State-wise and if so, what are they ?

Shri Karmarkar : I am not aware of the exact process which the National Small Industries Corporation adopted for placing its orders. But, I should think that we do not make any regional distinctions. Anyone is welcome to participate in this production.

Shri Kajrolkar : Is it a fact that a branch of the Corporation has been opened in Agra to help the industry ? If so, will similar branches be opened in other centres ?

Shri Karmarkar : Yes, sir; it is a fact that a helping unit has been opened in Agra under the auspices of this organisation. Wherever suitable, as per requirements, the Corporation will consider the particular location in which such a thing is necessary.

Dr. Rama Rao : Is it a fact that the lion's share of this order has been placed in a few places like Agra and other places have been neglected ?

Shri Karmarkar : Normally the lion's share of the order goes to the place where there is the lion's share of production. As my hon. friend very well knows, Agra is the single biggest producing centre in the whole of India and naturally, the bulk of the orders goes there.

Shri C. R. Chowdary : May I know whether the State Trading Corporation is placing orders directly with the people or is it placing its orders through some other agencies for the purpose of supply ? If so, what is the commission on the basis of which orders have been placed with the private suppliers ?

Shri Karmarkar : About the commission, the National Small Industries Corporation will be solely guided by the price. It is not in the public interest to disclose the commission that this Corporation or anyone charges. As my hon. friend knows, the National Small Industries Corporation is principally a helping organisation. It is the State Trading Corporation through which all these orders are being canalised.

Shri C. R. Chowdary rose—

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I just now requested hon. Members to wait till they

are called. I have called [Shrimati Kamalendu' Mati Shah.

श्रीमती कमलेशुबती झाह : क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि हमारे मुल्क में काफ़ी चमड़ा नहीं है जो हमें बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह चमड़ा मंगाने का सवाल नहीं है बल्कि जो है उसके जूते बनाने का सवाल है ।

Shri C. R. Chowdary : May I know the actual position of the State Trading Corporation ? Are they acting as middlemen or are they directly acting for the purpose of making a profit by these orders placed by foreigners ?

Shri Karmarkar : As I said, these transactions are canalised through the State Trading Corporation; and, for the canalisation, it should not be considered unjust if they charge a small percentage.

Shri B. S. Murthy : Arising out of answer given by the hon. Minister, namely, Agra is the centre of the lion's share or production, and therefore it will have to be given the lion's feeding, is it the intention of the Government that the entire trade must be given to Agra to the neglect of other places which are now struggling in the industry ?

Shri Karmarkar : That was not the intention at all. We have to meet the order within a limited period of time and naturally we go to those areas where we can get the goods readily within that time. The intention is not to help any centre, big or small. Even a single cobbler is welcome to us. It is immaterial whether the supply comes from Agra, Tamil Nad, Andhra or any other place.

श्री अक्षय बर्मान : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत में बने हुए जूते सोवियट रूस में इतने लोकप्रिय क्यों हो रहे हैं ?

Shri Heda : In view of the fact that we export hides and skins and also the fact that taking into consideration the quality, the shoes manufactured in India are cheaper than the shoes sold in the markets in Europe or America or Russia. Is our Government trying to explore the possibilities of finding better markets for our shoes in other countries ?

Shri Karmarkar : As my hon. friend is doubtless aware, already we have an export market. We are trying to develop that in view of the advantages that we have in this matter to the extent possible.