

trade organisation of a new kind in Hamburg.

**Shri Jinachandran:** My question has not been answered. I asked whether the report would be laid on the Table of the House.

**Shri Kanungo:** No, Sir. It is available in the Library.

#### Finance for Tea Industry

\*1079. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 134 on the 17th May, 1957 and state:

(a) the steps so far taken by Government on the decisions taken by the Conference held in Calcutta on 12th April, 1957 to find a practical solution to the problem of finance for the Tea Industry; and

(b) the number of tea estates so far benefited thereby?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 94.]

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the working group set up by the conference recommended that both short-term working finance and block loans to the industry should be given by the same agency, and for that purpose the State Bank was mentioned? May I know what steps the State Bank has taken in this respect?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The State Bank has said that it will be able to give loans for block capital, that is to meet the long-term requirements, only if the Refinance Corporation is able to re-lend that money to the State Bank. The Refinance Corporation has now been established, and the matter is being negotiated between the State Bank and the Refinance Corporation.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Is it a fact that the Central Government has advised the Government of Assam to assume

legal powers for taking over all the tea gardens that have closed down and to run them by allocating funds from the tea cess collections? If so, is it one of the practical solutions to the problem?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** Yes, it is true that some suggestion was made on those lines and the Minister concerned in the Assam Government also met us once or twice. We had asked him to send his suggestions in black and white, which he has done. But it is not very easy to formulate legislation on that matter. In fact, the Minister is here today and I am discussing with him this afternoon.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the Plantation Inquiry Commission has suggested that there should be a Finance Committee of the Tea Board, and if so, whether any steps have been taken for the formation of such a Committee?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** A proposal has come from the Tea Board that an *Ad Hoc* Committee may be appointed. Government are considering that proposal.

#### Short Notice Question

#### Disturbances in Rourkela Steel Plant Area

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8. { **Shri Panigrahi:**  
**Shri N. R. Munisamy:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently large-scale disturbances took place in Rourkela Steel Plant area;

(b) whether a large number of workers were arrested because of these disturbances;

(c) to what extent this has affected the progress of construction work of the steel plant; and