

Finance for Tea Industry

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- 2127. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri R. C. Majhi:
 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta.
 Shri Barman:
 Shri A. M. Tariq:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Ignace Beck:
 Shri S. C. Godsora:
 Shri F. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether the question of financing the Tea Industry in general has been finalised by Government,

(b) whether the financing agency has also been established, and

(c) whether any amount has been advanced by the agency to the Tea Industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c) A scheme for setting up a Guarantee Fund under the aegis of the Tea Board in respect of Working Capital Loans is under consideration. This would release the fixed assets of the tea estates for Development Loans from other sources including the State Financial Corporation, and thus help in solving the problems of Working Capital as well as Block Capital for the tea industry.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether any procedure has been adopted for financing this industry and, if so, the nature of that?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. As I have said in the answer, the scheme is under consideration.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether steps have been taken by the Government so far to obtain from banks relaxation of banking practices so that there might be a single agency to look after the gardens' block and working capitals? How far the steps have succeeded?

Shri Kanungo: We are considering at the moment a guarantee scheme for working capital purposes. The wider question which the hon. Member has asked, that is, financing by

banks, has been under constant review by the Reserve Bank.

श्री स० सु० तारिक मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि टी० बोर्ड ने क्या कोई इस किस्म की दरखास्त आपके पास भेजी है कि टी० फाइनेंस बोर्ड बनाया जाए ताकि इन लोगों को माली इमदाद दी जा सके, और अगर रिकोमेंडेशन आई है तो उसके बारे में आपने क्या इकदामात किये हैं ?

श्री अ० ए० - अ० - अ० - अ० : شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : میں نے کہا جاتا چاہتا ہوں کہ تی بورڈ نے کوئی اس قسم کی درخواست آپ کے پاس بھیجی ہے کہ تی فائننس بورڈ بنایا جائے تاکہ ان لوگوں کو مالی امداد دی جا سکے اور اگر ریکمیشن آئی ہے تو اس کے بارے میں آپ نے کیا اقدامات کئے ہیں ؟

श्री कानुंगो ऐसी कार्ड रिकोमेंडेशन नहीं आई है। एक कॉफिस १९५८ में हुई थी और यह तब हुआ था कि एक कमीडिटी के लिए एक कारपोरेशन बनाना फाइनेंसनी साउड नहीं है।

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister has said that the Tea Board is also thinking of financing these organisations. May I know whether they will help from their own funds or some funds will be created?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. They are not thinking of financing. The Tea Board is not a financing organisation. All that they are now considering is a guarantee scheme for loans for working capital from commercial banks.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: The hon. Minister has said that it is not possible to form one financial corporation for this commodity. We have got financial corporation for textile and other things. What are the difficulties in the way so that we cannot set up any tea finance corporation? We are trying for the last twelve months.

Shri Kanungo: There is not any financing or credit organisation for

single commodities, not even for textiles.

Shri F. C. Borooah: May I know if the proposed Tea Finance Guaranteeing Fund will have its own machinery to work or will it depend on some of the financing banks?

Shri Kanungo: The scheme is being worked out. When it comes to the Government, they will consider it. Obviously, the scheme is to guarantee loans obtained from commercial banks.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What happened to the proposal to set up a Central Finance Corporation for long-term financing of tea gardens?

Shri Kanungo: There is no such proposal under consideration.

Shri Hoda: May I know whether the Government have assessed the needs of this industry for working capital as well as for development purposes, and if so, what is the amount?

Shri Kanungo: It has been assessed and the figures as far as 1955 is concerned, are in the report of the Plantation Commission.

Special Reorganisation Unit in the Estate Office

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*2128. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hanada:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Reorganisation Unit set up to look into the working of the Estate Office has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the suggestions made; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, whether any interim report has been received and action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (**Shri Anil K. Chanda**): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The Special Reorganisation Unit have examined the working of the Estate Office and their main suggestions are as under:—

- (1) The existing procedure regarding calling for annual applications from all officers should be dispensed with.
- (2) Waiting List Registers and House-wise Registers should be replaced by Card Indices.
- (3) Change of residence within the same area should not be allowed.
- (4) An Enquiry Counter should be set up.
- (5) Lists of arrears of rent should be prepared Department-wise.
- (6) The procedure for the billing, posting and recovery of rent should be overhauled.

The suggestions have been accepted. An Enquiry Counter has been set up and is functioning satisfactorily. The procedure mentioned at (6) above is awaiting concurrence of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what led to the establishment of the Special Reorganisation Unit?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It was found from experience that some of the rules governing the working of the Estate Office required change, for better and speedier disposal of work and for streamlining of the organisation.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Item (1) of the statement says: The existing procedure regarding calling for annual applications from all officers should be dispensed with. What procedure will be adopted?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The original application of the officer will hold good till the allotment is made.