

(d) There are no restrictions on purchase of Lemongrass oil from the growers.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Purchase of lemongrass oil on S.T.C.'s account and its export are the responsibility of the STC itself. Purchases of the oil are made by the STC at 12 depots spread over the lemongrass growing areas in the Kerala State. These depots are under the overall charge of an official of the STC and 3 or 4 such depots are under the supervisory charge of an Inspector of the S.T.C. The actual storing at the various mofussil depots, transport of the oil from those depots to the central depot at Cochin and certain other services like Ag-marking, drumming, etc. are rendered by the agents appointed by the STC who were in the past handling lemongrass oil trade and for such services they are paid the actual expenses and a nominal commission.

As regards exports, shipments to rupee payment areas are allowed to be made by any party provided the export price has been approved by the S.T.C. and the quantity to be exported is lifted from the S.T.C.'s stocks. Shipments to non-rupee areas, however, have been entrusted to a firm in Bombay under a special arrangement entered into with them by the S.T.C.

Export of Sugar

904. **Shri V. B. Gandhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed to examine the steps necessary to increase the export of sugar and also to consider the feasibility of setting up sugar factories in the Public Sector;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Sugar Mills Association has been given representation on that Committee; and

(c) whether Government have been receiving co-operation from the sugar

industry in its export effort, and if not, the nature of difficulties?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) A Committee to study the problems connected with the development of sugar production for export purposes has been set up. The Committee will consider establishment of new capacities either in existing industrial units or entirely new units which will have special advantages of suitable location for export purposes.

(b) The Indian Sugar Mills Association is not represented on the Committee at present. It has however, since been decided to add one or two representatives of the Sugar Industry on this Committee.

(c) The Sugar Industry has been co-operating in promoting the export of sugar.

Export of Mangoes

905. **Shri D. J. Naik:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a trade delegation to study the export market for mangoes is being sent to U.K., France and West Germany; and

(b) if so, the personnel of the delegation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The desirability of sponsoring the visit of such a delegation to U.K., and other West European countries early next year is being considered in consultation with the State Trading Corporation of India. The proposal is still in the exploratory stage.

रेलवे कर्मचारियों को निर्माण भत्ता

906. { डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :
श्री किशन पटनायक :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या फरक्का परियोजना में जो