

regularises export and also the quantity of export from each country. Recently, we had a meeting of this committee in India and some decisions have been taken. As you know, two years back a decision was taken to withdraw 90 million lbs. of tea in the world market because there was a glut in the market of tea. This year, I say, the allotment is not unfavourable to us.

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** क्या यह सच है कि ब्रिटेन के बाजार में चाय का सारा व्यापार मुट्ठी भर लोगों के हाथ में केन्द्रित है और उस की नीलामी इस ढंग से की जाती है कि भारत को उस का उचित हिस्सा नहीं मिलता ? क्या मंत्रालय ने इस दृष्टिकोण पर भी विचार किया है ?

**श्री एल. एन. मिश्र :** यह बात सही है और इसकी कहानी 110 वर्ष पुरानी है। विलायत के कुछ लोगों के हाथ में यह चीज दे दी गई थी। हाल ही में हम लोगों ने यह निर्णय किया है कि चाय की पैकेजिंग हम करेंगे। आप जानते हैं कि यहाँ से बल्क में चाय भेजी जाती है। लन्दन में उन के पैकेट बना कर बेचे जाते हैं। इस से हमें बहुत नुकसान होता है हम ने एक कारपोरेशन बनाने का विचार किया है और यह पैकेजिंग हम अपने यहाँ करेंगे। इस से विलायत के बाजार में जिन लोगों के हाथ में यह काम है उन की मोनोपोली नहीं रहेगी।

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** When are you going to do it ? For the last two years we are hearing it.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** I have not been here for two years.

**SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA :** Is the Minister aware of the fact that there have been consistent complaints about the quality of tea that has been exported ?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** I have not received any complaint as regards the quality. As the hon. Member knows, we have pre-shipment inspection and we have strengthened that organisation. So far as

the quality of our tea is concerned, we have not received any complaint from the UK.

**Declaration of Birth Anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar as Public Holiday**

\* 368. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several organisations in the country have demanded public holiday on the birth Anniversary of Late Dr. B. R. Ambedkar ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not declaring this as a public holiday ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The period of our struggle for national revival and freedom produced men and women of eminence in diverse fields of politics, art, literature, religion, etc. Dr. B R Ambedkar was one of them. Government feel that a more creative and constructive way of honouring the memory of these great men and women should be found rather than declaring public holidays. In our country the number of such holidays is already large, even though, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission, the number of public holidays was reduced from 23 to 16 in 1960. Government also feel that when our country ought to make every effort to develop and to face the present difficulties, increasing public holidays would not be the best way of honouring the great men of the past or of promoting national interests.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Before I put my question I may make it clear that my questions are not invariably meant for Central Government employees. Always the hon. Minister gets the idea that I ask only about Central Government employees. I may clarify that it should cover all employees, whether working in the public sector or in the private sector. The Pay Commission does not apply to the private sector. That should be clear.

Now I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that for the last so many years two demands have been made by the Republican Party and those

who believe in Dr. Ambedkar and hold him in high esteem, not because he championed the cause of harijans but also because he championed the cause of parliamentary democracy. The two demands were to have a portrait of Dr. Ambedkar in the Central Hall and to declare his birthday as a public holiday. Public holiday means actually showing respect to someone so that his creation and work could be popularised among the people on that particular day. I would like to know why none of the demands has been conceded by Government.

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** There is no doubt about Dr. Ambedkar's eminence as a constitutional lawyer and as a great public man of this country. But, as I said in my answer, declaring public holidays is really not the best and the fittest way of honouring the memory of a great man like Dr. Ambedkar. A lot of requests have come to the Government from time to time from various organisations that Dr. Ambedkar's memory should be honoured by declaring a public holiday. But for the reasons stated by me in my answer, it has not been possible to accede to that request. As a matter of fact, except for Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, there is no national leader whose birthday has been included in the list of public holidays.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Apart from not declaring a public holiday in the larger national interest, I would like to know what other measures have been taken to have a proper memorial for Dr. Ambedkar in the country.

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** The Question is specifically about declaring a holiday. As regards honouring Dr. Ambedkar many statues have come up all around the country and a number of institutions have been named after him. The Government always gives importance to the contribution that he has made in our national life.

**SHRI K. G. DESHMUKH :** May I know whether the Maharashtra Government has made a request to the Central Government for declaring the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar as a public holiday ?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** Yes, Sir. The Maharashtra Government did make a representation in this respect supporting other organisations.

**SHRI SANJEEVI RAO :** We are having the maximum number of public holidays. Is the Government contemplating to reduce the number of public holidays.

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** As I stated, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission, the number of public holidays was reduced from 23 to 16 in 1960. We are awaiting the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission which is still working and we will give due consideration to whatever recommendations they make.

#### Export drive for Automobile Ancillary

\*369. **SHRI P. GANGADEB :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are working out a proposal for a dynamic export drive in respect of automobile ancillary to achieve the target of Rs. 100 crores annually ; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to achieve the same ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to raise the exports of automobile ancillaries from Rs. 7.00 crores in 1970-71 to Rs. 10.00 crores in 1971-72.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

In addition to the existing export assistance including advance and replenishment licences, compensatory support, duty drawbacks, customs bonding, freight reductions etc. the recently established Trade Development Authority has been entrusted with the task of developing both production and export of automobile