
V2,31 .N51
M51.6.
138365

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 5th February, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COMMONWEALTH DOLLAR POOL

***1151. Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what have been the earnings of Dollar to be put in the Commonwealth Dollar Pool during the last three years?

(b) What was the earning of each unit of the Commonwealth during the last three years?

(c) How much has each country drawn from the pool during those three years?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) There is no Commonwealth Dollar Pool. Presumably the hon. Member refers to the Central gold and dollar reserves of the sterling area. The net results of our operations on these reserves during the three years ended December, 1950, were as follows:

(i) In 1948, a net drawal of $ 96 million.

(ii) In 1949, a net drawal of $ 69 million.

(iii) In 1950, a net contribution of $ 79 million.

(b) and (c). Separate figures for each member of the sterling area are not available; but the changes in the central reserves during these three years were as follows:

(i) In 1948, a reduction of $ 223 million.

(ii) In 1949, a reduction of $ 178 million.

(iii) In 1950, an increase of $ 1,612 million.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any definite amount fixed for our annual withdrawals now?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no fixed amount.

Shri A. C. Guha: How is our withdrawal regulated now?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Now there is no limit on the withdrawals and we can anticipate that all our reasonable requirements will be met out of the Pool.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the arrangement in 1948?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The withdrawals were limited to 75 per cent. of our expenditure in Dollars in 1948.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the criterion to decide as to how our withdrawals are to be taken?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no limitation now, but it has been agreed that all sterling earning countries will do their best to economise Dollar expenditure with a view to strengthening the Central Reserve and hasten the convertibility of sterling.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that we can withdraw as much as we may like or as we need?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Reasonably yes.

IMPERIAL BANK

***1152. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of the share capital of the Imperial Bank is owned by Indian Nationals;

(b) whether the Government of India have got any nominee on the Central Board of Directors of the Imperial Bank; and

(c) if so, what are the distinctive features as regards powers and privileges of the Government nominee Director from those of other Directors?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Excluding shares held by Corporate bodies and Institutions, the shares held by Indian Nationals on the 23rd May, 1950 were 80 per cent. of the fully-paid up shares and 88 per cent. of the partly paid-up shares held by individuals.

(b) and (c). Under Section 28(1)(iv) of the Imperial Bank of India Act, Government have nominated two persons on the Central Board of Directors of the Bank. These Directors have the same powers and privileges as other Directors of the Central Board. The Government have also nominated under sub-section (3) of Section 28 an officer of Government to attend the meetings of the Central Board and such officer is entitled to attend all meetings of the Board and to take part in its deliberations but is not entitled to vote.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any special committee for the Central Board?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The Central Board has no committee, but I think the local boards have weekly committees.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are the Government nominees entitled to attend the committees and take part in their deliberations?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या इम्पीरियल बैंक के राष्ट्रीयकरण के सम्बन्ध में भी कोई विचार किया जा रहा है और अगर विचार किया जा रहा है तो इसका निर्णय कब तक हो जायगा ?

[Seth Govind Das: Are any proposals for the nationalisation of the Imperial Bank also under consideration of the Government, and if so, when a decision on the same may be expected?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : विचार किया जा रहा है और रिजर्व बैंक की शिफारिशों की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है। यह थोड़े अर्से म हमारे पास पहुंच जायेंगी।

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The matter is under consideration and recommendations of the Reserve Bank are being awaited. They are expected to reach us very shortly.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कितने दिन के अन्दर यह आशा की जानी चाहिए ?

[Seth Govind Das: By when may it be expected?]

Mr. Speaker: We have discussed this question very often.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was an Indian ever appointed as Managing Director at any time?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Not so far. The Managing Director has not to my knowledge been an Indian.

Shri A. C. Guha: How is the Managing Director appointed now, by the Directors and share-holders?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The Managing Director is appointed by the Directors.

Shri A. C. Guha: While 80 per cent. of the shares have been held by Indians, is it not the duty of the Government to see that the Managing Director of this Bank is an Indian?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think, he is arguing.

Shri B. Das: Will the Hon. Finance Minister tell us what steps have been taken to nationalise the Imperial Bank?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order

Shri M. L. Gupta: You stated that we have two Directors in the pool and that Government have also nominated one officer to attend the meetings. Are these Directors eligible to vote or not?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They are.

Prof. Ranga: Are Government considering the amending of the Imperial Bank of India Act, and if so, when do they propose to bring up a Bill before the House?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I answered that question already. The Rural Banking Enquiry Committee have made certain recommendations in the matter and those recommendations have been referred to the Reserve Bank for their advice. The Reserve Bank is meeting on the 8th February to consider them in the light of such observations as have been made by the Central Board of the Imperial Bank on the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. As soon as the recommendations of the Reserve Bank are received, we shall proceed to consider the matter further.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not one of the recommendations that the Government nominees should take part in the deliberations of the Committee of the Central Board?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think that that is one of the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee.

Cosmic Rays

***1153. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that experiments designed to measure the intensity of penetrating Cosmic rays at altitudes of above 70,000 ft. by balloon flights had been carried out at Bangalore?

(b) If so, with what results?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Some important results on the intensity of the penetrating component of cosmic rays have been obtained. These were reported at the International Conference on Elementary Particles held at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and the main conclusions arrived after discussion at the conference are that the vertical intensity of cosmic radiation penetrating 10 cm. of lead absorber, gradually increases up to a pressure of 120 millibars and then falls down rapidly. This finding is not in agreement with the results obtained by many other workers who conducted their experiments in the Northern latitudes which may explain the difference. It is our intention to pursue these experiments still further and attempt to reach still lower pressures. I may add that if, however, the hon. Member is not only interested in stratosphere to which this answer refers, but is also anxious to have information of the Ionosphere above it and the Troposphere below it, I am quite prepared to give that also to him.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Kamath: May I know.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not propose to allow any question.

Shri Kamath: Why not, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: For obvious reasons. Next question.

Shri Kamath: Not so obvious to me.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know what is the cost involved in this experiment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order: I am calling the next question.

Franchise for Bengalis migrated from East Bengal

***1154. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received urging upon Government to confer rights of franchise on the Bengalis who migrated from East Bengal to the Indian Union after the 25th July, 1949; and

(b) if so, what action have Government taken in the matter?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) Yes.

(b) These representations were very carefully considered by Government. Rights of franchise could be conferred on this class of persons only by first passing a special law conferring citizenship on them, since they are not citizens of India under the Constitution, and then by making special provision in the Representation of the People Act enabling them to register themselves as voters. The passing of the two Bills would take some time, which would mean further delay in the completion and final publication of the electoral rolls. It would not even be possible to scrutinise the enrolment of this new class of citizens with the requisite care. It would certainly upset our present programme for holding the general elections in November-December, 1951. Furthermore, the number of migrants who would become eligible for voting would, in any event, be relatively small. In view of these considerations, Government have decided not to make any special provision for conferring rights of franchise on persons who have migrated from East Bengal into India after the 25th July 1949.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what would be the approximate number of people debarred from franchise?

Dr. Ambedkar: As I said, it would be relatively small.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What would be the proportion?

Dr. Ambedkar: I have not got the exact figure. If my hon. friend wants, I can supply the figure to him.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that if these people are not franchised, they will have to be left without franchise for a period of five years?

Dr. Ambedkar Well, that is a hardship which no one can help.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether none of the migrants have been so far enrolled and if so, what is their number?

Dr. Ambedkar: As I have said just now, if they were enrolled, their number would be relatively small.

Shri A. C. Guha: In view of the fact that the hon. Minister has said that

पास की है जिसमें इस बोर्ड के बारे में काफी सख्त समालोचना की गई है?

[**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Are the Government aware that the Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Sahitya Sammelan has passed a resolution wherein this Board has been severely criticized?]

مولانا آزاد : جب کبھی اس طرح کا کوئی کام کیا جاتا ہے تو مشکل ہوتا ہے کہ ہر خواهش پوری کی جائے - اس بورڈ کے بناتے ہوئے جو جو باتیں ضروری تھیں وہ گورنمنٹ نے سامنے رکھیں اس میں ایسے آدمی رکھے گئے ہیں جو سائنس کی مختلف شاخوں میں ایکسپرٹ ہیں اور ہندوستان کی کلاسکل اور ماڈرن بھاشاؤں کے اسکالر ہیں - گورنمنٹ کو اطمینان ہے کہ اس کام کے لئے یہ ایک بہت اچھا بورڈ بنا ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** It is clear that whenever any such work is undertaken, it becomes very difficult to satisfy all sections of people. All the necessary factors were taken into consideration by the Government in the constitution of this Board and only such persons have been selected as are experts in different branches of Science and also are scholars of the various classical and modern languages of India. The Government are satisfied that this Board as constituted is quite competent for the purpose.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या गवर्नमेंट को यह बात मालूम है कि इस मामले में हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन और कुछ दूसरी संस्थाओं ने कुछ काम किया है, और जिन संस्थाओं ने काम किया है क्या उन संस्थाओं के भी और आदमी इसमें लिए जाने पर गवर्नमेंट कुछ विचार कर रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Are the Government aware of the work done in this behalf by the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan and similar other organizations and are they considering of increasing the number of members by including representatives of such organizations as have some such work to their credit?]

مولانا آزاد: گورنمنٹ ہر اس طرح کی تجویز پر غور کرنے کے لئے تیار ہے اور جن ایسوسیئیشنس نے اس بارے میں کچھ کام کیا ہے یہ بورڈ ان کے کاموں سے ضرور فائدہ اٹھائے گا - یہ بھی میں کہہ دوں کہ یہ ممکن نہیں ہے کہ بورڈ کے ممبر تمام خود کریں - مختلف سب کمیٹیاں بنائی جائینگی اور اُن میں قابل آدمیوں سے مدد لی جائیگی -

[**Maulana Azad:** The Government are prepared to consider every such proposal and the Board shall surely take advantage of the work done by various organizations in this connection. I may also add that it may not be possible for the members of the Board to do all this work themselves. So various committees will be set up and other capable persons will also be asked to give help.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या गवर्नमेंट जिस वक्त मेम्बर कोआप्ट करेगी उस वक्त हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन और दूसरी संस्थाओं से परामर्श करेगी कि किस तरह यह काम अब तक हुआ है और आगे किस तरह होना चाहिए ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know whether at the time of co-opting members will the Government consult the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan and other organisations about the manner in which this work has till now been handled and the manner in which it should be conducted in future?]

مولانا آزاد : جی ہاں مجھے اطمینان ہے کہ یہ بورڈ ان تمام باتوں کو ضرور سامنے رکھے گا -

[**Maulana Azad:** Yes Sir, I am satisfied that the Board will surely keep all this in view.]

Smuggling of Gold

*1156. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on or about the middle of December, 1950, the Customs Authorities seized large quantities of gold smuggled by passengers arriving by air from the Continent?

(b) If so, what was the total amount of gold so seized?

(c) How many persons were involved?

(d) Have they been prosecuted?

(e) How was the gold, seized by the Customs Authorities disposed of?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes. Five seizures were made, one on the 13th December and four on the 17th December 1950.

(b) Approximately 8836 tolas.

(c) Five.

(d) and (e). The matter is at present under investigation and appropriate action will be taken in regard to the gold seized and against the persons concerned according to law when the investigation is complete.

Shri Sidhva: With reference to part (b) of the answer, Sir, may I know what is the value of the gold so seized?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The value of the gold seized, at current market rate is Rs. 9,54,420.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact that since December, there have been many more cases of smuggling of gold and if so, what is the total value of the gold involved?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, I would require notice of the question.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, is it a fact that there are gangs of foreigners continuously smuggling gold and may I know whether Government have taken any active steps to check this smuggling?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is reason to suspect that organised attempts are being made to smuggle gold into the country, and we are tightening our measures to deal with this smuggling.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, may I know from which country this gold was sought to be smuggled into India?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is very difficult to say. Anyhow, the smugglers came by a plane from Rome.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that a French nobleman who was recently arrested in Bombay was involved in the smuggling of gold?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no such French nobleman. But there is a case in court in which a high-placed foreigner is concerned, whose name I would rather not give at the moment.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, out of the five persons referred to in the reply, may I know how many Indians were involved and what were the nationalities of the others?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There was no Indian. They were all foreigners.

Shri B. Das: Sir, may I know if such gold when seized, goes to the gold reserve of the Government of India or is it sold in the market?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It goes to the mint, Sir.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether a French marquis smuggled 76 tolas of gold and whether a prosecution has been started?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: As I said, there is no such French nobleman or marquis involved.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact...

Mr. Speaker: We had better go to the next question.

Indian Administrative Service

*1157. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of women selected so far in the Indian Administative Service?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): No woman has been so far selected for the Indian Administrative Service.

Shrimati Durgabai: Sir, may I know whether it is a fact that some women whose applications were received were not selected on the ground that they were married, or were encumbered?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Sir, sometime ago, the Cabinet decided that these services should be thrown open to women. At that time the question of whether any restriction should be placed on account of marriage had not been taken into account. But the actual recommendations made were in respect of two married women, one of whom was recommended not only for the Administrative Service, but also for the Police Service. The question thus came up for consideration, and my predecessor expressed the opinion that there would be considerable difficulty involved in the case of married women in the discharge of duties appertaining to the active district administration work and police work, which would involve not only touring for several months in the year but frequently prolonged outings in the

course of emergencies as well as in the normal course. He felt great difficulty in the matter, and decided provisionally that married women were considered not suitable for such services as the Indian Administrative Service and the Police Service. But the very persons recommended now are being considered actively for the Central Secretariat Service.

Shrimati Durgabai: Sir, is it not a fact that many women are employed, I mean married women, in various other departments of the Government, and if that is the case why should women candidates for the I.A.S. be differentiated against?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, that is entering into arguments.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Sir, this being in violation of the Constitution, will Government think of taking steps to see that no principle is laid down that married women as such should not be excluded from employment but that each individual case should be judged separately?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That is perhaps the course which Government may ultimately take, Sir.

Shrimati Durgabai: Sir, may I know whether the difficulties enumerated by the hon. Minister are only anticipatory or were they experienced by the Government or expressed by the women concerned?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question is perhaps academical. The point that was considered was that the touring and the actual field work that were involved were such that it would be somewhat difficult for married women who may occasionally find it impossible to fulfil the tasks involved. As was appropriately put by my friend Mrs. Ray, the question is an individual one, and in respect of the particular kind of work; and no general principle would rightly be suitable. It is not a matter for debate, and I have already given the information that no principle has been laid down and the matter is under consideration. Meanwhile, in actual practice, we have not selected these women who have been recommended for these services. But as I have said, they are being considered for other suitable services.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, AJMER

***1158. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether Government have sanctioned the starting of law classes in the Government College, Ajmer?

(b) If so, what is the estimated expenditure, recurring and non-recurring likely to be incurred thereon?

(c) Have such classes been started; and if not why not and by which time are the said classes likely to be started?

مفسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانہ آزاد) - (اے) ہاں جولائی سنہ ۱۹۵۰ سے - (بی) ریکرینگ خرچہ تخمیناً ۸۹۰۰ روپیہ - نان ریکرینگ خرچہ کچھ نہیں ہوا - (سی) نہیں کلاسیز شروع نہیں ہو سکے - کیونکہ آگرہ یونیورسٹی نے فیصلہ کیا کہ وہ ان کلاسوں کو تکنیکل رکاوٹوں کی وجہ سے جولائی سنہ ۱۹۵۰ سے افیلیئیٹ نہیں کر سکتی - اب امید کی جاتی ہے کہ جولائی ۱۹۵۱ سے یہ کلاسیز شروع ہو جائینگی -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes. From the session beginning from July 1950.

(b) Total recurring expenditure involved is Rs. 8,900 (approximately). No non-recurring expenditure is required.

(c) No; because the Agra University expressed their inability to agree to the affiliation of these classes from the session beginning from July 1950 in view of certain technical difficulties. These classes are expected to be started from July 1951.]

RE-ORGANISATION OF CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

***1159. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) when the implementation of the Re-organisation Scheme of the Central Secretariat will be completed;

(b) how much economy will be effected in expenditure on establishment of the Government of India on its completion; and

(c) to what extent will it result in retrenchment of staff?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) I presume that the reference is to the reorganisation that was recently undertaken of some of the Ministries with a view to effect economy and achieve administrative efficiency.

The following merger and reorganisation of Ministries was carried out recently and the change has come into effect from February 1, 1951:

(i) Commerce, Industry and Supply and Works, Mines and Power Ministries and the Department of Scientific Research were merged to form three new Ministries known as:

1. Industries and Commerce.
2. Works, Production and Supply.
3. Natural Resources and Scientific Research.

(ii) Food and Agriculture Ministries were merged into one Ministry known as Food and Agriculture Ministry.

It is not possible at this stage to say whether or when other changes may also be made.

(b) and (c). The economy effected by the measures described in reply to part (a) of the question is represented by the following cut in staff:

Secretaries	...	2
Deputy Secretary	...	1
Under Secretaries	...	2
Superintendents	...	3
Assistants and Clerks	...	37

Any further retrenchment that may be advisable will be taken up at the end of April, 1951.

If, however, the reference in part (a) of the question is to the Central Secretariat Service (Reorganisation and Reinforcement) Scheme, the present position regarding implementation of this Scheme is as follows:

The recommendations of the Union Public Service Commission about the initial constitution of Grade I of the Service have been received. Most of the officers concerned have been appointed to the Service, and the initial constitution of this grade will be completed very shortly. The recommendations of the Commission in regard to Grades II and III are also expected to become available during the next two or three months. As regards Grade IV of the Service, the results of the second of the two tests contemplated in the Scheme which is due to be held later in the year, must be awaited.

As this Scheme relates primarily to the reorganisation of personnel, the results in terms of economy of expenditure or retrenchment in staff cannot be assessed in terms merely of this scheme. It will be possible to assess these results after the review of the lay-out of posts in the Secretariat organisation as a whole is completed, and the scope for further retrenchment is settled.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know if in the retrenchment campaign the interests of the scheduled castes are fully safeguarded?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The primary consideration is economy and efficiency: other interests will also be kept in mind.

Sardar Sochet Singh: May I know what provision has been made for the re-employment of retrenched hands?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As has been repeatedly stated priority of claim is reserved for such people. On a number of occasions I have explained this at length before.

Sardar Sochet Singh: Do Government propose to have a pool of retrenched personnel, out of which candidates can be absorbed in other departments whenever required?

Shri Rajagopalachari: All the retrenched hands form a pool and out of them selection will be made according to very definite principles which, I remember, I have explained on previous occasions in answer to questions.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask if the hon. Minister has received any representation from the Central Secretariat Association suggesting alternative solutions for bringing about economy?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir. Some such suggestions have been received and on a consideration of all matters we have arrived at certain conclusions. It is possible that they may be improved in course of time but as time is the essence of the matter we have to follow some decisions based on materials available.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it the policy of the Government that only retrenched personnel will be recruited and not outsiders?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Practically fresh recruitment for vacancies have been held up in favour of these retrenched hands.

Shri Gautam: May I know if Government is considering the desirability of reorganising the other Ministries also?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already touched on that subject and I do not think any fresh answer is necessary.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if these reorganisational changes have been made in conformity with the recommendations of Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar's Report?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if he had recommended the combining of the Health and Education Ministries as well?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That falls under the category of things yet to be considered.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if in the consequential retrenchment the Government is sending back the deputationists from the Provinces first before retrenching any of the other people?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would like it to be put in the form of an enquiry to me or as a fresh question.

Shri Sidhva: For the purpose of economy is it not the policy of the Government that no extension should be given to superannuated employees? If so, may I know whether that policy has been revised and still persons are being given extensions?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would like to have notice of that question.

Shri Sondhi: What will be the result of the reorganisation scheme in terms of rupees, annas and pies?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already answered that point.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if there was a recommendation with regard to the doing away of the posts of Joint Secretaries?

Mr. Speaker: Let not the hon. Member go into these details.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, I wanted to know the policy of the Government regarding extension to superannuated employees.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has already answered it asking for notice.

NIGHT SCHOOLS FOR ADULTS

*1160. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of night schools for adults in the Centrally Administered Areas?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاؤس کی ٹیبل پر رکھدیا گیا ہے -

[See Appendix X, annexure No. 2.]

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** A statement is placed on the Table of the House. (*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 2.)]

श्री बाल्मीक: क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि सन् १९४९ और सन् १९५० में इन स्कूलों पर कितना खर्चा हुआ ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state the expenditure incurred on these schools in the years 1949 and 1950?]

مولانا آزاد: اس کے لئے میں ابھی تیار نہیں ہوں -

[**Maulana Azad:** I am not in a position to reply that question just now.]

श्री बाल्मीक: क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस तरह के स्कूल हरिजन बस्तियों में कितने खोले गये हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state the number of such schools that have been opened in the Harijan Colonies?]

مولانا آزاد: اسکول جو کھولے جاتے ہیں وہ اس اصول پر نہیں کھولے جاتے کہ کن کن محلوں میں کھولے جائیں اور کن کن محلوں میں نہ کھولے جائیں - جہاں موقع ملتا ہے کھولے گئے ہیں اور ان کا دروازہ سب کے لئے کھولا ہوا ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** The schools are opened on no such principles as to the *Mohallas* in which they should be opened and in which not. They are opened in places where facilities exist and their doors are kept open for everyone.]

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई: क्या मैं पूछ सकती हूं कि सेन्ट्रली एडमिनिस्टर्ड एरियाज में प्राईवेट एजेन्सीज के द्वारा चलाये हुए जो

विद्यालय हैं, उन को सरकार की तरफ से क्या कोई ग्रान्ट मिलती है और अगर मिलती है तो कितनी मिलती है ?

[**Shrimati Durgabai:** May I know whether the schools run by the private agencies in the Centrally Administered Areas receive any grant from the Government, and if so, how much?]

مولانا آزاد: میں اس کی تفصیل نہیں بتلا سکتا - اس کے لئے جو قاعدے بنے ہوئے ہیں ان قاعدوں کے مطابق پرائیویٹ اسکولوں کو مدد دی جاتی ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** I am unable to furnish details. Certain rules exist in this respect and grants to private schools are sanctioned in accordance with those rules.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر: دھلی میں اس طرح کے کتنے اسکول ہیں -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** What is the number of such schools in Delhi?]

مولانا آزاد: ڈیڑھ سو ہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** The number is 150.]

चोधरी रनवीर सिंह: क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या वृद्धों के लिये जो स्कूल खोले गये हैं, वह देहातों में कितने खोले गये हैं ?

[**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state as to how many of such schools meant for old persons have been opened in the villages?]

مولانا آزاد: بوڑھوں سے شاید ان کا مطلب ایڈلٹس سے ہے - دھلی کے دیہاتوں میں کافی اسکول کھولے جا چکے ہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** Perhaps the hon. Member is referring towards 'adults'. Sufficient number of schools have been opened in the rural areas of Delhi.]

श्री गौतम: क्या गवर्नमेंट के पास इस क़िस्म का कोई हिसाब है कि सेन्ट्रली एडमिनिस्टर्ड ऐरिया में कुल कितने ऐडल्ट स्कूलस् की ज़रूरत होगी और उस में से कितने खोले जा चुके हैं और कितने इस साल में खुलने की उम्मीद है ?

[**Shri Gautam:** Have the Government any figures regarding the total number of schools needed in the Centrally Administered Areas and the number of schools that have actually been opened, as also the number of schools expected to be opened during the current year?]

مولانا آزاد: تمام جگہوں کے لئے تو میں ابھی نہیں کہہ سکتا - لیکن جہاں تک دھلی کا تعلق ہے ہم نے یہ اندازہ لگایا ہے کہ جس چال سے ہم چل رہے ہیں - پانچ برس کے اندر ہم دھلی کا کام پورا کرلینگے -

[**Maulana Azad:** I am unable to state anything in respect of all the places, but so far Delhi is concerned we have had an estimate and we think that by the present rate of progress we shall be able to meet the requirements of the whole of Delhi within the next five years.]

سردار سچیت سنگھ: یہ جو تعلیم بالغان کا انتظام ہے - کیا طلبا کو کسی امتحان کے لئے وہاں پر تیار کیا جا رہا ہے - مثلاً کیا یہ میٹرک کولیشن اسٹینڈرڈ کی تعلیم ہے یا مڈل اسٹینڈرڈ یا کسی اور اسٹینڈرڈ کے لئے یہ تیار کیا جاتا ہے -

[**Sardar Sochet Singh:** May I know whether the students are being coached for any particular examination under the present scheme of Adult Education. I mean whether this education aims at preparing them for the Matriculation, middle or any other examination?]

مولانا آزاد: یہ اسکول سوشل ایجوکیشن کے ماتحت کھولے گئے ہیں جس کا مقصد یہ ہے کہ ان پڑھ آدمیوں کو پڑھنا لکھنا سکھا دیا جائے اور اس کے ساتھ کچھ اور باتیں بھی جو ان کی

اچھی زندگی کے لئے اور ان کے پیشہ کے لئے ضروری ہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** These schools have been opened under the Social Education Scheme which aims at making illiterate persons literate, besides teaching them certain other things as are necessary for raising their standard of life and help in their professions.]

سردار سچیت سنگھ : کیا ان کے لئے کوئی امتحان پاس کرنا ضروری نہیں ہے -

[**Sardar Sochet Singh:** Is it not necessary for them to pass any examination?]

[**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. We proceed to the next question.

DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES

*1161. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that delimitation of Constituencies and allotment of seats have been hampered on account of want of correct estimate of different classes of population and proper enrolment of voters; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to remedy these defects?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) While there have been difficulties in a few areas, they have not been such as to hamper the work of delimitation seriously. I am informed by the Election Commission that fair progress has been made.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri B. K. Das: Is it a fact that in Cooch-Bihar and some other areas the enrolment of voters has been such that on the basis of those voters the number of population comes to something far below the number that was enumerated during the 1941 Census? As the basis of delimitation of constituencies and the allotment of seats is the number of voters in areas within the provinces, are Government aware that the allotment of seats has been affected in those areas?

Dr. Ambedkar: I will make enquiries.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is it a fact that the scheduled caste seats are being concentrated in certain parts of the country and others are left without them?

Dr. Ambedkar: I have no information on the subject for the moment.

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya: May I know whether the names of most of the women voters in Rajasthan have been wrongly entered thus depriving them of their vote?

Dr. Ambedkar: My information is that it is really a very difficult matter to enrol women voters in Rajasthan, because nobody is prepared to give the name of a woman. A woman is generally called by the name of the village from which she comes or things like that.

Shrimati Durgabai: What arrangements have Government made to approach the Rajasthan women and get to know their correct names?

Dr. Ambedkar: As I say, Government has made the best efforts it can but certainly there are these difficulties that I have pointed out.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : तो जो कठिनाइयां माननीय मंत्री जी नें बतलाईं, उन को दूर करने के लिये क्या उपाय किया जा रहा है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** What steps are being taken to remove the difficulties stated by the hon. Minister?]

डा० अम्बेडकर : मेरी समझ में वह हर कोई सम्भव उपाय इसके लिये कर रही है ।

[**Dr. Ambedkar:** To my mind, they are taking all possible steps.]

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know how many delimitation committees have submitted their reports so far?

Dr. Ambedkar: It does not arise out of this question.

KOSI PROJECT

*1162. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kosi Project issue has been referred to a "Committee of Experts"; and

(b) if so, what is the scope and nature of its inquiry?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). It has been decided to set up an advisory committee consisting of eminent engineers to examine and report on the general soundness of the Kosi Project and on the feasibility and economics of its execution in stages.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I ask whether the Committee has been constituted?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The decision has been taken for the constitution of this Committee and we have also decided on the personnel. We are communicating with the persons concerned requesting them to join the Committee.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What will be the probable strength of the Committee?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Five, including a member-secretary and the chairman.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: When will the report of the Committee be available?

Mr. Speaker: It is too early now to say that.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the investigations that were being carried on have been completed?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Yes, Sir.

Shri S. N. Das: Has the report on those investigations been received by Government?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Government get a report on the investigations as they proceed. Those are being carried on in seven stages and we have so far got the report for the first stage only. This will be put before the Committee when it is constituted. The Committee will also examine generally stages I to IV of the project.

Shri S. N. Das: Is it a fact that the whole scheme has been divided into five parts and that the first part will be taken up first?

Shri Sri Prakasa: There are seven stages. Five stages have been generally investigated into and the hope is that the first stage may be implemented soon. We expect that this new Committee that will be set up within a month or so will make their final report within another two months and then it is hoped it may be possible to take the project in hand, finances permitting.

SOYA BEAN MILK

*1163. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiment was made by using Soya Bean Milk as a substitute for natural milk among any Military personnel; and

(b) if so, since how long it is used and by how many persons?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). An experiment with 200 persons (Boys) covering a period of six months was made in 1950. The results are being studied still.

Shri Kshudiram Mahata: May I know whether it has been found as good as natural milk for human health?

Mr. Speaker: The results are being studied. They have not come to any conclusions.

Major-General Himatsinhji: Its nutrition value is 80 per cent. of pure milk.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether ordinary milk is not supplied in sufficient quantities in the military?

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise out of this question?

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: The question refers to an experiment made by using Soya Bean Milk as a substitute for natural milk.

Major-General Himatsinhji: The experiment is not to replace pure milk but to supplement it if and when we cannot get it in sufficient quantities.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether powder milk is supplied to the military personnel instead of pure milk?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. Whenever we cannot get pure milk, powder milk *i.e.*, blended milk is issued.

SALE OF FLAGS

*1164. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected Statewise, from the sale of flags on flag-day *i.e.* 7th December, 1950; and

(b) the number of flags sold?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) A statement giving the collections so far intimated by States is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 3.] The figures are, however, incomplete.

(b) 45,44,735 small paper token flags and 80,000 car flags were sold.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What was the amount collected?

Major-General Himatsinhji: A little over five lakhs.

INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

*1165. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers and non-officials who applied for admission into the I.A.S. from Vindhya Pradesh and Bhopal State;

(b) how many of them have been selected and what was the basis of such selection; and

(c) how many out of the selected personnel are the *bona fide* residents of the States?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Officers—3.

Non-Officials—1.

(b) None.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether Government have reserved seats in the I.A.S. State-wise?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As far as I know, no.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether Government propose to start some kind of junior I.A.S. or State Administration Service for Part C States on the pattern of the P.C.S.?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Notice may be given for that—it is a different question.

NATURAL RESOURCES

*1166. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have so far been taken by the Government of India to tap the natural resources existing in areas which came over either as Part 'B' or 'C' States in the Republic of India as a result of States integration;

(b) whether any kind of research and survey work is being undertaken in any of these States; and

(c) if so, where and in what directions?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). Systematic geological surveys, geophysical surveys, exploratory mining and drilling and special and routine minerological investigations have been carried out and are being continued by the Geological Survey of India in areas which constitute Part 'B' and Part 'C' States with the exception of the States of Hyderabad, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin which have their own geological staff.

(c) A statement showing the work done and the work proposed is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 4.]

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछ सकता हूं कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश में कारखाने खोलने के काफ़ी साधन हैं ? क्या वहां कोई कारखानें खोलने के उपाय किये गये हैं ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** May I ask the hon. Minister whether sufficient resources exist in Vindhya Pradesh for the opening of various factories and whether any steps have been taken to open any such factories there?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : विन्ध्य प्रदेश में भी निम्न लिखित विषयों पर अनुसन्धान किये गये हैं :

1. Mica, copper and iron in Tikamgarh district, Bundelkhand,

2. Gold and gemstones near Chitrakut,

3. Coal in different parts of Rewa; also Bauxite, and

4. Ground water conditions in Bundelkhand District.

यह सब अनुसन्धान की बातें हैं। कारखानें खोलने में यदि माननीय सदस्य को रस हो तो वह हमारे माननीय मित्र व्यवसाय मंत्री से पूछें।

[**Shri Sri Prakasa:** In Vindhya Pradesh too research has been conducted in connection with the following:

1. Mica, copper and iron in Tikamgarh district, Bundelkhand,

2. Gold and gemstones near Chitrakut,

3. Coal in different parts of Rewa; also Bauxite, and

4. Ground water conditions in Bundelkhand district.

All this is about the research work. If the hon. Member is very keen about the opening of the factories, he may better address to the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry.]

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री से पूछ सकता हूं कि रीवा स्टेट में अल्यूमीनियम बनाने के लिये बाक्साईड और अब्रेजिव मैटिरियल बनाने के लिये कोरंडम आदि भी मौजूद हैं ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** May I ask the hon. Minister whether Bauxite and Corundum are also found in Rewa State for the preparation of Aluminium and abrasive materials?]

Mr. Speaker: I think he is giving information more than asking for it.

श्री श्री प्रकाश : विन्ध्य प्रदेश में यह सब चीजें मौजूद हैं जिनके नाम मैं ने पढ़े। माननीय सदस्य अब किन बातों के बारे में सवाल करते हैं ?

[**Shri Sri Prakasa:** All these materials, minerals etc. which I have just read out exist in Vindhya Pradesh. Now what other information does the hon. Member seek?]

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं ने पूछा है कि क्या विन्ध्य प्रदेश की रीवा स्टेट में अल्युमीनियम बनाने के लिये बाक्साईड और अब्रेजिव मैटिरियल बनाने के लिये कोरंडम भी मिलता है ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** I have enquired whether Bauxite and Corundum are also found in that State for the preparation of Aluminium and abrasive materials respectively?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : हां, यदि माननीय सदस्य उस सूची कोदेखेंगे जो कि मैं ने यहां पेश की है तो उन कोउस से पूरी जानकारी हो जायगी। जहां तक मुझे मालूम है माननीय सदस्य की इत्तला ठीक है कि जिन वस्तुओं का नाम वे ले रहे हैं वे विन्ध्य प्रदेश में मौजूद हैं।

[**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Yes, the hon. Member will get full information on this point in the list that I have laid on the Table of the House. So far as I am aware, hon. Member's Information about the existence of the materials named by him in Vindhya Pradesh is correct.]

MINERAL WEALTH IN VINDHYA PRADESH

*1167. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have any information available on the basis of work conducted by predecessor Governments of Vindhya Pradesh with regard to mineral wealth embodied in that region;

(b) whether any fresh attempts have been made or are likely to be made in this direction; and

(c) what minerals other than coal are known to be existing in the Vindhyan soil?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) With the exception of Rewa State which employed two private Geologists for short periods, no other State in Vindhya Pradesh, so far as we know, have carried out any geological investigations. Officers of the Geological Survey of India, however, have from time to time studied the general geology and investigated into the mineral resources of Vindhya Pradesh. An account of the work done in this behalf, is contained in the Records of the Geological Survey of India and the Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India. A list of publications on the subject is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 5.]

(b) The work is being continued. A statement containing information on the recent work done by the Geological Survey of India in Vindhya Pradesh together with the field programme of the Geological Survey for the year 1950-51, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 6.]

(c) The Vindhyan formations, apart from coal, contain deposits of limestone, high grade refractories like sillimanite and also corundum which is a good abrasive.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know what acreage of land is embedded with coal in Vindhya Pradesh?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I fear I could not give the exact acreage.

Shri Kamath: Have any attempts been made recently to work the diamond mines of Panna?

Shri Sri Prakasa: If the hon. Member will look into the Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, he will find all the information he needs—minus the diamonds. As regards the investigations about diamonds in Panna, full information is given in the Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India on Panna State diamonds.

SPECIAL POLICE

*1168. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases instituted by the special police establishment upto-date;

(b) the number of decided cases; and

(c) the number of convictions out of the said decided cases?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) 1553 from the inception of the Establishment in 1941 up to 31st December 1950.

(b) 1180 were decided.

(c) 718 convictions were obtained out of which some were upset in appeal. During the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, 42 convictions were upset in appeal out of 328. Information about the result of appeals in the earlier years is not readily available.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Enforcement Branch of the Police is proposed to be closed from 1st March 1951?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The Enforcement Branch Police is totally different from the Special Police Establishment referred to in this question.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that this Special Police Establishment is not sufficient in personnel to cope with the work?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It depends upon the scope of work that we have in our minds, but in a matter of this kind even a few cases have a very deterrent effect.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is there any proposal to stop this Establishment?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That does not arise out of this question.

Shri Tyagi: May I know the field of operation of this Establishment? Does it operate only in the Centrally Administered Areas or all over India?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The Special Police Establishment deals with corruption among Central Government servants extending up to Cape Comerin, say, for instance, the Railways.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the total strength of this Establishment and how much is the expenditure incurred on it?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am sorry I have not got the figures here.

EXCISE COLLECTORATE FOR BIHAR

***1169. Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether a separate Central Excise Collectorate has been set up for Bihar?

(b) If so, is it a fact that the Headquarters of the Collectorate is at Calcutta at present?

(c) If so, when do Government propose to shift it to Patna?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes for the present.

(c) As soon as accommodation becomes available at Patna.

TOBACCO EXCISE

***1170. Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what is the income of Government from Tobacco Excise in Bihar?

(b) What part of the same is being spent on the research of tobacco?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The amounts of Central Excise duty collected in the Bihar State on tobacco during the years 1948/49 to 1950/51 are as following:

1948/49	...	Rs. 2,60,80,000
1949/50	...	Rs. 2,52,56,000
1950 (up to December)	...	Rs. 1,77,66,000

(b) No part of the tobacco excise revenue from Bihar as such is spent on research. An annual grant of rupees ten lakhs is made from the Central Revenue to the Indian Central Tobacco Committee which is an organization set up by the Ministry of Agriculture for conducting research on tobacco with a view to improving methods of production and marketing of tobacco.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Does any Part of this tobacco tax raised from different States go to the States themselves and if so, to what States and how much?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No part of the tax as such goes back to the States, but there are arrangements in force at present under which compensation from Central Government is paid to certain States in lieu of withdrawing sales tax and similar forms of taxation from tobacco which is a commodity on which the Union imposes the tobacco excise duty. The States are: Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Coorg and Punjab.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will Government be pleased to state if tobacco tax is also raised in Bihar and if so do Government propose to pay any compensation to the State of Bihar as is done in the case of the other States?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have already referred to the tax raised in Bihar.

It is not the intention of Government to extend this system of payment of compensation.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether the incidence of tobacco tax per acre has been calculated and if so, how much is it?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am afraid I must have notice of the question.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether Government has considered the question of transferring the establishment for realizing this excise duty on tobacco to the various State Governments and if so, would this transfer be economical?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Government has not considered the question and there is no reason to believe that the transfer will be economical.

Shri Tyagi: May I know which is the supervisory authority? These excise inspectors have to work in remote and widespread areas. Therefore, may I know if there is any agency at the hands of the Central Government to supervise their activities?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. The Central Board of revenue is there

Shri Tyagi: It is too Central.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is it a fact that this tax is being collected in different stages both from the cultivator and the tradesman and also the manufacturers, and if so, do Government propose to collect this tobacco tax as one single tax?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is a fact that this tax is collected at different stages, that is to say, on the leaf as well as in certain cases at the manufacturing stage. The question whether greater advance could be made in rationalising the tax on tobacco is under consideration.

HIGH COURTS

***1171. Shri Biyani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many Acts and how many provisions of various Acts have been declared "*ultra vires*" by various High Courts in the country in the year 1950?

(b) How many persons were ordered to be released Statewise by the High Courts in the year 1950?

(c) How many persons ordered to be so released have been re-arrested or re-detained?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PUBLICITY OFFICES (APPOINTMENTS)

***1172. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state what action has been taken to ensure that in future, appointments in the various publicity offices of Government will be made out of persons fully conversant with Hindi?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): The question of making knowledge of Hindi a qualification for appointments to publicity posts is under examination.

COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTIES DESTROYED DURING WARTIME

***1174. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state what is the amount of compensation claimed by different persons in Naga Hills, Manipur State and Assam, for the properties taken over or destroyed by the Military during wartime?

(b) How much of the amount of claims has been paid, and how much is still pending?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). In so far as Manipur State is concerned, the amount of compensation claimed is about rupees five crores and twelve lakhs. Out of it, claims to the extent of rupees two crores and thirty-three thousand have been paid. Figures in respect of Naga Hills and Assam are not available at present.

MULGAONKAR COMMITTEE

***1175. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 60 asked on 18th December, 1950 and state:

(a) whether the Mulgaonkar Committee, appointed by Government, to enquire into the affairs of the Government Housing Factory, Delhi, has now submitted its Report;

(b) if so, its findings and recommendations; and

(c) whether Government propose to lay a copy of the Report on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Report is at present under the consideration of Government. Government consider that it

will not be in the public interest to disclose the findings and recommendations of the Committee or to supply copies of the Report to the House at this stage.

COMPANY LAW

*1176. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what progress, if any, has so far been made by the Committee set up for enquiring and reporting what revision is feasible and necessary in respect of Company Law?

(b) Has the Committee been specifically asked to report on the functioning of the managing agencies in India?

(c) Has any time limit been fixed by which the Committee is required to submit its report?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The Committee has already completed the analysis of the comments received from various associations and individuals on the Memorandum on the Amendments of the Indian Companies Act which was circulated in October, 1949 by the former Ministry of Commerce. A subcommittee of the main Committee is proceeding with a comparative study of the provisions of the Indian and the English Companies Acts. The Committee has already examined some witnesses in Madras and Bangalore and expects to complete this phase of its work at a few other industrial centres in the near future.

(b) Yes, one of the specific terms of reference of the Committee relates to this subject.

(c) The Committee was asked to submit its report at the end of February 1951 but it is clear that they will need more time to finish their work.

DAILY ALLOWANCE

*1177. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the daily allowance paid to the non-official members of—

(i) The Planning Advisory Committee;

(ii) The Film Enquiry Committee;

(iii) The Tea Licencing Committee; and

(iv) The Central Tea Board;

for attending the meetings of the respective bodies?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (i) The non-official members of the Planning Commission Advisory Board receive a daily allowance of Rs. 20 for attending the meetings of the Board.

(ii) The Chairman of the Film Enquiry Committee receives a basic subsistance allowance of Rs. 50 per day, and the non-official members Rs. 40 per day. In addition, they receive, while working away from Delhi, the headquarters of the Committee, a daily allowance of Rs. 20.

(iii) The members of this Committee get their actual out-of-pocket expenses when attending the meetings of the Committee.

(iv) The members get daily allowance at the rates normally admissible to Grade I Officers of the Government of India; ordinarily this rate is Rs. 12/8/- per day except at Calcutta and Bombay where Rs. 15 are allowed.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED

*1178. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds available and spent so far in 1950-51 under the head "Education and Welfare of the Handicapped"; and

(b) whether Government maintain any record of the number of "Handicapped" persons?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) The total amount available during 1950-51 was Rs. 4,41,700 and the total amount spent so far is Rs. 3,00,100.

(b) No, Sir.

LOANS TO STATES

*1180. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States to which loans were advanced during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) the total amount so far advanced in this period, and

(c) the objects for which the loans were given?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). A statement containing the information required is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 7.]

SEIZURE OF CURRENCY NOTES

*1181. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Indian currency notes to the tune of Rs. 1,53,000 were seized by the Bombay Customs from a constellation Aircraft scheduled to depart for New York?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Yes.

LIMESTONE DEPOSITS

*1182. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that limestone deposits suitable for the manufacture of Portland cement have been discovered in Guntur;

(b) what are the other places where this article is found; and

(c) whether investigations were recently made by the Geological survey of India to locate this article and if so, in how many places so far?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes.

(b) Such deposits occur in numerous places in India. A statement showing the important places where these deposits are found is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 8.]

(c) Information regarding investigations carried out during the past two years is being complied and will, when ready, be placed in the Library of the House.

ALL INDIA SERVICES

*1183. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state what are the new grades of All India Services?

(b) What is the starting and ending salaries of the officials who will be recruited under the new grades?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 9.]

CHIEF JUSTICE OF ASSAM HIGH COURT.

*1184. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) since when the present Chief Justice of the Assam High Court has been officiating as such;

(b) during what periods since the establishment of the High Court in Assam the Court had more than two Judges;

(c) what procedure has been adopted to arrive at a decision where the two judges of the High Court had difference of opinion as regards any judgment or order; and

(d) when is a permanent Chief Justice and a third Judge going to be appointed for the Assam High Court?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Since April 1949.

(b) The High Court had a Chief Justice and two Judges from 16th February 1949 to 7th April 1949.

(c) In civil cases the difference of opinion between the two Judges has been resolved by recourse to section 98 of the Code of Civil Procedure; no difference of opinion has been reported in criminal cases.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

BROADCASTING CENTRE IN SHILLONG

90. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether it is in the contemplation of Government to abolish the Broadcasting centre in Shillong and if so, by when?

(b) Do the Government of India propose to restore to the Government of Assam the building now in the occupation by the Broadcasting centre?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

TRAINING OF INDIAN TECHNICIANS

91. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. Alan P. Good, head of the Brush Aboe (Associated British Oil Engines Group) entered into an agreement with a leading Indian firm of diesel engine manufacturers for the generation of power?

(b) Does this agreement cover training of Indian technicians and if so what is the number of persons to be trained?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Government understand that Messrs. Brush Aboe have entered into an agreement with Messrs. Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd. Poona and Messrs Kirloskar Electric Co. Ltd., Bangalore for the manufacture of diesel engines and electric motors, but not for the generation of power.

(b) the agreements are understood to provide for training of Indian technicians in the works of Petters-Stanes (London) and Brush Electrical Manufacturing Co. Ltd. (Loughborough).

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 6th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PAPER

*1186. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what were the measures taken by Government for exercising control on paper up to 1948?

(b) How many of these measures are still in force?

(c) How are the existing and proposed paper mills distributed state-wise?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 11.]

(b) There is no control on paper now.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 12.]

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the production capacity and what is the imported quantity of paper now?

Shri Mahtab: The total requirement is estimated at about 2,20,000 tons. Our total capacity is about 1,90,000 tons; but the actual production is only 1,09,000 tons.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the total quantity of paper imported?

Shri Mahtab: That item was on the OGL with the result that the exact quantity of import cannot be easily ascertained.

Shri A. C. Guha: How is the production distributed State-wise?

Shri Mahtab: The exact figures of production State-wise are not available. But in the statement I have given, the location and the capacity of the mills are given.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any control over the distribution of paper now?

Shri Mahtab: There is no control now.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know, Sir, what financial help has so far been given to the Balarpur and Nepa Mills in Madhya Pradesh and how much further assistance is going to be given in future?

Shri Mahtab: The Government of India have not given any financial assistance to those mills; the State Government of Madhya Pradesh have, of course, given assistance.

Shri Sidhva: What is the present position of stock in the country?

Shri Mahtab: From the prevailing prices it appears the position is quite satisfactory, because in regard to some varieties of paper—to which the Government of Bombay have drawn our attention—the prices are not rising in spite of the war scare. From that it appears that the stock position is good. As soon as the stock position deteriorates, steps will be taken to control it.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether it is a fact that news-print is selling in price in Bihar?

Shri Mahtab: This question relates to paper and not news-print.

Shri A. C. Guha: What portion of the Indian produced paper is taken by the Government?

Shri Mahtab: This figure is not available, because as I told the House hardly 50 per cent. of our total requirement is produced here.

PAKISTAN TROOPS ON WEST BENGAL BORDER

*1187. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any concentration of Pakistan army or troops on the border of the District of Nadia in West Bengal in November and December 1950;

(b) whether there were any clashes between Pakistan troops or soldiers and Indian troops or soldiers or people during those two months in that area;

(c) if so, whether there was any loss of life or was any one wounded; and

(d) whether there was any theft or forcible taking away of Indian property including standing crops, cattle etc., due to any raids or inroads from Pakistan on the Indian territory in that region?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) No exact information is available about the concentration of Pakistan troops near the border of Nadia District but it is believed that there was a concentration of Pakistan armed personnel at Meherpur about four miles from the West Bengal border within Pakistan territory.

(b) There was no clash between Pakistan and Indian troops but there were exchanges of fire between the Pakistan and Indian border Police.

(c) In West Bengal one constable was injured and one civilian died as a result of the firing. Casualties on the other side are not known.

(d) Trouble arose on account of several attempts made by Pakistanis, with the help of their armed Police, to forcibly reap and remove paddy from Indian territory in that region.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any penetration of Pakistan Police force or troops into Indian territory?

Dr. Keskar: In one particular village the Pakistan armed police penetrated for more than five hundred yards.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any firing from that side from Indian territory?

Dr. Keskar: There was no firing from our side to begin with. Our police was ordered to fire to return their fire.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question was when the Pakistan Police force penetrated within Indian territory, was there any firing from the Pakistan police force from within Indian territory?

Dr. Keskar: In the village of Bhatupara, the Pakistan Police penetrated into Indian territory for a few hundred yards, dug themselves in and fired from that spot.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was any enquiry held by the two Governments?

Dr. Keskar: A protest was made to the Pakistan Government. After a certain exchange of correspondence it was ultimately decided that the matter should be enquired at the highest level and cease fire was ordered. From that time there was no exchange of fire.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any dispute over the sovereignty of the territory?

Dr. Keskar: The Pakistan District Magistrate on the other side claimed that that particular village is Pakistan territory.

Shri Tyagi: What is the position of that village today?

Dr. Keskar: Of the two villages in dispute, a portion of a village where the Pakistan police penetrated is still in their possession.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will Government please state what steps they are taking to prevent the recurrence of such incidents on the borders of West Bengal and East Bengal, because these incidents are happening rather frequently?

Dr. Keskar: We have taken necessary precautions for the protection of our borders through armed police; secondly, we have drawn the attention of the Pakistan Government to frequent violation of our territory by their police.

Shri Hussain Imam: Was this included in the disputes which were referred to the Bagge Tribunal?

Dr. Keskar: No, it was not a question of dispute referred to the Bagge Tribunal; it had nothing to do with demarcation.

Shri A. C. Guha: Who has been collecting revenue from that village, which is now Pakistan territory, since Partition?

Dr. Keskar: We have been collecting the revenue.

Prof. Ranga: Are we to understand that the Government are taking no steps at all to regain that village for our Republic?

Dr. Keskar: The firing that ensued in that village led to a series of correspondence and claims and counter-claims between ourselves and the Pakistan Government. It has now been decided between the two Governments that there shall be a conference at which they have to prove that the village belongs to them—otherwise, they will have to give it up.

INDIAN SUPPLY MISSION, WASHINGTON

*1188. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken on the report of the Estimates Committee for the immediate closing down of the Indian Supply Mission in Washington; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to take any action in future?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). In the present circumstances, it is not possible to close down the India Supply Mission, Washington, but Government are exercising all the economies possible in respect of this organisation.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what is the necessity of retaining this Mission when there are consulates and commercial secretariats attached to the Indian Embassy in Washington?

Shri Gadgil: The explanation is that this organisation has been in existence for the last so many years and it is an organisation which does better work in this sphere.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what is the amount that is annually spent over this Mission?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot give it offhand, but it is about Rs. 20 lakhs.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जितना खर्च इस पर हो रहा है वह अब घटाया जा रहा है, या बढ़ाया जा रहा है, या उतना ही है जितना कि शुरू से होता था ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know whether the expenditure incurred over this Mission is being decreased or increased or the amount that is being spent is same as it has been since the beginning?]

श्री गाडगिल : इस बारे में मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि पहले १०६ अफ़सर थे। अब उन में से १५ कम कर दिये गये हैं अब ९१ हैं। और वह २८ फ़रवरी तक रहने वाले हैं। १५ फ़रवरी को पूरी पोज़ीशन पर रिव्यू किया जायगा। उस के बाद देखा जायगा कि काम को नज़र के सामने रखते हुए कितनी तादाद कम कर सकते हैं।

[**Shri Gadgil:** In this connection, I can say that previously there were 106 officers. The number has been reduced by 15 and now there are 91 officers. They will remain up to 28th February. The entire position will be reviewed on the 15th February. It will then be decided that keeping in view the amount of work, how much staff should be reduced].

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the Estimates Committee has stated that fifty per cent. of the articles have been disposed of, and in view of that may I know, if my hon. friend has read the report, whether they have proportionately reduced the staff?

Shri Gadgil: Apparently my hon. friend is completely confused. The question is about the Supply Mission position at Washington. There we purchase; we have nothing on our hand to be disposed of there.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: In view of the policy of the Government to cut down imports from dollar areas, in what way is the Mission necessary; and if it is not, may I know whether Government wants to economise expenditure in this regard?

Shri Gadgil: We are anxious to follow to as greater an extent as possible the recommendation of the Estimates Committee. But since its recommendations the position has changed, because the United States Government have tightened up the export control and also a number of items including a number of key materials have been brought under further control. In these circumstances, to use Indian agents of foreign firms here will do no good. We will have to take the matter at government level and negotiate with the U.S.A. and the Candadian Governments directly. In this matter the Indian agency will be absolutely of no use.

Shri B. Das: Sir, on a point of information, can the hon. Minister refer to the hon. Member Mr. Sidhva's brain being confused?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need pursue the matter.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know the particular year to which the number of officers that the hon. Minister gave—the original number of 106—refers? Was it 1946-47? What was the position in 1946-47 and what is it today? Secondly, what was the amount of purchases in 1946-47 and what is it in 1950-51?

Shri Gadgil: I will satisfy the curiosity of the hon. Member. In 1945-46 the vaule of the contracts was Rs. 6·52 crores.

1946-47	...	Rs. 7·63 crores
1947-48	...	Rs. 32·57 crores
1948-49	...	Rs. 71·99 crores
1949-50	...	Rs. 13·52 crores

and in 1950-51, upto 31st October, it was Rs. 25·07 crores.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are there any Indian Consuls in the United States?

Shri Gadgil: I think the position is sufficiently well-known to the House.

STATE PURCHASE CORPORATION

*1189. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken on the Estimates Committee's recommendation for the establishment of a State Purchase Corporation to deal with all Government purchases, Indian or foreign; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). The recommendation of the Estimates Committee is under consideration.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government contemplate to accept the general principle?

Shri Gadgil: The principle that there must be some central organisation to deal with the matter is already accepted. The only change proposed is that instead of having a Mission directly under the Government there should be a State Corporation.

Shri Sidhva: The Estimates Committee's recommendation is that pending the establishment of this Corporation there should be a revision in the Department. May I know whether Government is taking that question of revision in the Department into consideration?

Shri Gadgil: That is being done.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether the Government have examined the position and come to any conclusion now or do they wish to consult the House before they come to any conclusion?

Shri Gadgil: I suppose that the Estimates Committee Report has been generally endorsed by the House. If that position is correct, then the Government will give its recommendations their best consideration.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are not the Supply Department of the Government of India doing this work of purchasing materials for the Government already, both in India and in foreign countries?

Shri Gadgil: Yes, they are doing the work of purchasing.

INDIAN NEWSPAPERS BANNED IN GOA

*1190. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many newspapers from India have been banned entry into Portuguese India by the Government of Goa?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Our information is that about 50 Indian newspapers have been banned entry into Goa by the Portuguese India Government.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how many of these are dailies and how many are in English and in the Indian languages?

Dr. Keskar: I have not got tabulated figures about dailies. There are 27 Mahratti papers, 12 English papers, about 7 Konkani papers, 3 Gujarati papers and one Hindi paper.

Shri Sidhva: Is the *Times of India* included in the ban?

Dr. Keskar: The *Times of India* is not banned, but many times certain issues of it have also been banned.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, arising out of this, if you will permit me to enquire, may I know as to what is the present position of the Portuguese possessions as regards their transfer of power to India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Chattopadhyay: What was the reason given for banning these papers?

Dr. Keskar: They have not given any special reason for banning them.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that a representative of the journalists in Goa was refused an interview and insulted by a Portuguese officer when he asked for an interview?

Dr. Keskar: I do not know.

Dr. Deshmukh: Have the Portuguese got any papers that we could ban?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENTS IN CEYLON (EMPLOYMENT OF CEYLON NATIONALS)

*1191. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed between the Government of Ceylon and the Presidents of the Indian Mercantile Chamber and other Indian and Pakistani Trade Associations in regard to employment of Ceylon Nationals in Indian and Pakistani business establishments in Ceylon?

(b) If so, what are the chief points of that agreement?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The main points of the agreement are:

(1) No person shall be recruited or employed as a new entrant unless he is a citizen of Ceylon. This rule shall not apply (i) to persons who merely change employment or are transferred from one firm or establishment to another; (ii) to classes of posts for which citizens of Ceylon are not available; and (iii) also to posts of confidence such as those of Managers or Attorneys, Bank Agents and Accountants.

(2) A non-Citizen of Ceylon, who has secured employment in Ceylon for the first time subsequent to 1st July, 1948, shall be discontinued from employment immediately, provided he is not a child of the proprietor or a Director of a limited liability company.

(3) This agreement on Ceylonisation shall not apply to firms where three or less persons are employed.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that Indians who failed to make at least three remittances between July 1948 and April 1949 are now prohibited from making further remittances to their dependents in India?

Dr. Keskar: I am not sure whether people have been forbidden to send remittances on this excuse but there is a complaint with regard to remittances, which we are looking into at this time.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Indians in Ceylon are treated on an equal footing with those of non-Indian foreigners over there?

Dr. Keskar: This is a very general question and I think, if I remember aright, on many times on the floor of this House, we have referred to this question. It will require a little time and if you like, I will go into that.

Prof. Ranga: The idea is whether any discrimination is being exercised there with regard to Indians as distinguished from non-Indians but who are not Ceylonese citizens?

Dr. Keskar: There is no doubt that in some form or other there is discrimination between Indians and non-Ceylonese and other foreigners.

Prof. Ranga: Are any steps being taken by Government to provide some employment whenever it is available here on this side to those Indians who have not chosen to accept Ceylonese citizenship and who therefore have come to be unemployed there?

Dr. Keskar: Government certainly will make every effort to provide employment, keeping in view our other commitments and difficulties with regard to this matter here.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether this agreement will apply to children and relatives of Indian proprietors?

Dr. Keskar: Many resultants of this agreement are being looked into and I may inform the House that this agreement was signed by the merchants themselves without consulting the Government of India.

STANDARD CODE ON TRADE AND TARIFFS

*1192. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a Standard Code has been approved by the Governments, including the Government of India, signing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade?

(b) If so, what are the terms of that Code?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Presumably the hon. Member has in mind the Code of Standard practices for import and export restrictions and exchange controls. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) A copy of a pamphlet containing the terms of the Code is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 13.]

INDIAN TRADE DELEGATION TO SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES (REPORT)

*1193. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Indian Trade Delegation which recently visited some countries in South-East Asia has submitted its report to Government?

(b) If so, what are the important recommendations made in that report?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Copies of the report have been made available to the library of the Parliament from where they can be obtained by Members for purposes of reference. The main conclusions and recommendations are summarised in

part V of the report. Briefly stated, the important recommendations are as follows:

(i) We should develop our trade with the South-East Asian Countries and the present is the most opportune time to do so.

(ii) Indian manufacturers should send their representatives to these countries for the purpose of studying the markets and organisation of sales and agencies.

(iii) Permanent show-rooms may be opened in collaboration with the representatives of Trade and Industry in certain places in order that Indian goods may be properly displayed.

(iv) Facilities should be afforded to Indian banks and Insurance Companies to open their branches in these countries.

(v) Indian shipping may be developed so that direct sailings to some of the important ports in South-East Asia may be provided for facilitating movement of goods between India and these countries.

Prof. Ranga: Are any steps being taken to implement any of these recommendations, and if so, what are they?

Shri Karmarkar: We are actively considering the report and when our consideration is over, action will be taken.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any suggestion has been made by this delegation that Government should take steps to maintain the proper quality of cotton piecegoods as the one exported to Indonesia and if so, what steps have Government taken in that direction?

Shri Karmarkar: I require notice.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Which are the countries that were visited by this delegation and in which of the countries visited by the delegation have we got our Trade Commissioners?

Shri Karmarkar: The delegation that left Calcutta on the 6th September returned on the 15th October after visiting Jakarta, Sourabaya, Bandoeng, Bali in Indonesia, Singapore, Kaulalampur, Penang in Malaya, Bankok and Rangoon.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The latter part of my question about the trade commissioners remains to be answered.

Shri Karmarkar: We have our representation in Indonesia, Singapore, Burmah and Bankok.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether these Trade Commissioners ever made any recommendations on the lines that have been made by this delegation?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes. We are receiving regular reports from the Trade Commissioners.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Then what was the reason to send this delegation after those recommendations were received?

Shri Karmarkar: The reason is that we are actively interested in developing trade as much as possible with foreign countries and we thought that a delegation would be very useful in that respect.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what are the commodities in which the export market from India to those countries are expected to be developed and what does the Committee think about that? What is the actual scope of export to those areas?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid, it will lead me into a long list but if the House is interested, I am prepared to read the list.

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary.

Cotton Prices

*1194. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the ceiling prices fixed by the Government of India in respect of various qualities of short and long staple cotton produced in India and how these prices compare with the prices of this commodity prevailing in the various foreign markets of the world specially in U.S.A. and U.K.;

(b) whether Government have any intention of revising the rates and if not, why not;

(c) what were the average prices of *Kapas* prevailing in the big commercial centres of India during the years 1949 and 1950 and how these prices of *Kapas* compare with the ceiling price of cotton fixed by the Government of India; and

(d) what arrangements have been made by the Government of India to ensure the supply of cotton at the ceiling prices to the manufacturers in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement showing the ceiling prices fixed by the Government in respect of various qualities of short, medium and long staple cotton produced in India and the prices of fairly comparable

cotton produced in U.S.A. is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 14.]

(b) There is no intention to revise the prices as the prices fixed are considered quite remunerative to the cotton grower.

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 15.]

(d) The following steps have been taken for making cotton available to mills at controlled prices with particular reference to the nearness of the mill to the zone, the cotton of which is usually consumed by that mill:

(i) Every mill has been given a quota of cotton from cotton growing zones;

(ii) India has been divided into a number of zones, each corresponding to a prinicipal cotton growing State and the movement of cotton from one zone to another is prohibited except under a movement permit issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, or any other officer authorised by him in this behalf.

(iii) It was found that the prices in the Ferozepur district of the Punjab, in the Buldana, Akola and Amraoti districts of the Madhya Pradesh were piercing the ceilings. Stringent action has therefore been taken for the purpose of regulating distribution and price of cotton currently moving in those areas. Under these measures no person can contract for sale of cotton grown there except to the Government nominees. Simultaneously a ban on movement of cotton and *Kapas* has been imposed in the districts of Kaira, Panch Mahals, Baroda, Broach, Surat, East Khandesh and West Khandesh districts of Bombay State and cotton and *Kapas* in these areas can be moved only with the permission of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

These measures are bearing fruitful results.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what has been the extent of rise in the price of *kapas* after the ceiling price of cotton has been fixed?

Shri Mahtab: As a matter of fact it is much below the cotton price. The ceiling price is now maintained.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question is, what has been the extent of rise in the price of *Kapas* after the ceiling price of cotton has been fixed?

Shri Mahtab: Since the ceiling price of cotton is maintained, the price of *Kapas* is not allowed to raise.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether it is a fact that certain mills have closed down and their statement is that they have closed down because of the want of cotton at controlled prices?

Shri Mahtab: This is the report published in the newspapers. I am investigating into that and if it be a fact, we shall certainly make cotton available to the mills.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that 6 mills have been closed in the Indore State for want of cotton?

Shri Mahtab: That was reported in the papers but on subsequent investigation, it was found out that that report was incorrect. So far as some Bengal mills are concerned, that matter is being investigated.

Shri Gautam: What steps have Government taken to control the price of *Kapas*?

Shri Mahtab: Collective purchase of cotton is the only step which will keep the price of *Kapas* under control.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Are the prices in the U.S.A. and the U.K. higher than the ceiling prices for the same quality of cotton in India, or lower?

Shri Mahtab: Much higher as will be seen from the statement.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether the Government propose to start a Central organisation for the monopoly purchase of cotton in India?

Shri Mahtab: That is very much under consideration. As a matter of fact, we are developing that idea. The present collective purchase will probably end in the setting up of a Cotton Purchasing Board as in the U. K.

Shri Tyagi: Has it come to the notice of Government that in the villages, more than half of the population have not been able to get any cotton to fill in their quilts during the winter season?

Shri Mahtab: That may be a fact. But, when the problem of cloth is there, we can easily overlook the problem of quilts.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Is it a fact that the manufacturers have failed to supply cloth at controlled rates to the cotton growers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it proposed to form a Cotton Board on the lines

of the I.J.M.A. or as a Government sponsored body?

Shri Mahtab: I need not go into that now. At present, we are purchasing collectively. That idea is being developed. That is very much under consideration.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether the Ministry has come to know of mill-owners who have sold their cotton in the black market after getting their quota from Government? Has there been any such instance?

Shri Mahtab: If they do so, it is at their risk. I do not think the report is correct. The mills have been allotted quotas. I do not think they will make more profit by black-marketing in cotton than by producing and black-marketing cloth, if they possibly can.

Shri Sidhva: Is it correct to understand from the hon. Minister's reply that there is no mill that has closed down in India?

Mr. Speaker: He said something about the West Bengal mills.

Shri Sidhva: In Ahmedabad?

Shri Mahtab: For instance in Ahmedabad, mills have been closed for various reasons; want of supply of raw material is not the only reason.

Shri Sidhva: One of the reasons.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the extent of disparity in the prices of cotton in the U.K. and the U.S.A., and the prices prevailing in India, and how has this disparity affected the textile industry in India?

Shri Mahtab: I suppose the hon. Member refers to the prices prevalent in the U.S.A. U.K. is not a cotton supplying country. I can read out the prices from the statement.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the percentage of disparity?

Mr. Speaker: Has he placed the statement on the Table of the House?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member may better refer to that.

Shri Tyagi: I read about a Textile Advisory Board meeting which was lately summoned at Bombay by telegrams. May I know if the question of the price of cotton and *kapas* was considered in that meeting?

Shri Mahtab: It was summoned to Ahmedabad by me. This was not one of the subjects. There is no complaint on this score. The complaint was with regard to the prices which are fixed for cloth.

COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

*1195. **Shri Barman:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects that were discussed in the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London;

(b) whether the Kashmir question was discussed; and

(c) whether Colombo Plan was going to be expedited as a result of the talk in that Conference, if any?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The final communique of the Conference and the Declaration made by Commonwealth Prime Ministers at the conclusion of the Conference are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 16.]

These papers will give some idea of the nature and scope of the subjects discussed. The proceedings of the Conference were confidential and it is not possible to give further detailed information.

(b) No, this was not discussed in the Conference.

(c) The Colombo Plan was not discussed, though occasional references to it were made.

Shri Barman: In the Declaration of the Prime Ministers, it is stated, so far as Asia is concerned, that peace is to be secured on a basis of justice and prosperity. May I enquire whether any effective steps were discussed at the Conference and if so when are the steps going to be taken?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member no doubt reads newspapers and keeps in touch with events. I can hardly answer on behalf of other Governments. So far as our Government's policy is concerned, it has been sufficiently elucidated previously and recently and I hope soon to inform the House of what we have done and what our policy at present is. I do not quite understand the hon. Member's question. In this Declaration certain statements are made. In applying the policy, each Government does what it thinks best. It may be that some Governments are not trying to fully apply this policy; we are trying to apply it, any way.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether there is any truth in the statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan both in London and Karachi that certain proposals were made for the settlement of the Kashmir issue by some of the Prime Ministers,

which proposals he accepted and the Prime Minister of India had rejected; if so, what are those proposals and for what reasons they were rejected?

Shri Jawaharlal Nahru: I am perfectly prepared to deal with this matter; but that has nothing to do with the Conference. On some other occasion, I am prepared to deal with this matter.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is the hon. Prime Minister in a position to assure the House that nothing in furtherance of the discussions held in London will be done without taking the House into confidence?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether the hon. Prime Minister's eye has caught the news item in the Press today to the effect that Mr. Attlee, the Prime Minister of the U.K., was taking into consultation some other Commonwealth countries with regard to the dispute in Kashmir? Was it with the consent of our Prime Minister that he is having consultations?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Surely I cannot be called upon to comment on newspaper items. I know nothing about it, apart from the fact that, as I said, the question of Kashmir is a very important one, which I should like to deal with at some slight length. I can hardly deal with it in connection with this question about the Conference because I do repeat that the Conference had nothing to do with Kashmir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question:

Shri Tyagi: Neither Mr. Attlee.

CHANDERNAGORE

*1196. **Shri B. K. Das:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what date has been fixed for the handing over of the administration of Chandernagore *de jure* to the Government of India?

(b) What will be its status as an administrative unit?

(c) What is the plan for its representation to the Legislatures of the country?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The Treaty for the Cession of Chandernagore was signed in Paris on February 2, 1951, by representatives of the Governments of India and France. The Government of India will assume *de jure* authority over Chandernagore as soon as the Treaty is ratified by the French Parliament. It is hoped that the ratification will take place shortly.

(b) Chandernagore will be treated more or less as a Chief Commissioner's Province for the time being and will, therefore, be a Part C State.

(c) The matter will be soon taken into consideration.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether, as soon as the Treaty is ratified by the French Parliament and the Indian Parliament, the territory of Chandernagore becomes part of India and the citizens of Chandernagore get the citizenship rights of India, or is it necessary to have an Act passed by our Parliament for the accession of territory and for giving citizenship rights to the citizens of Chandernagore?

Dr. Keskar: According to the French law, it is necessary for them to pass an Act of Parliament when they want to cede any part of French territory; but for us, it is not necessary to pass an Act of Parliament.

Pandit Kunzru: Does the Treaty require that Chandernagore when taken over by the Government of India should be treated as a Chief Commissioner's province?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir.

Pandit Kunzru: Why is it necessary then so to treat it? Is it not possible to place it under the Government of West Bengal, but ask it to respect the laws and language now in force in Chandernagore?

Dr. Keskar: I think the hon. Member did not hear my reply thoroughly. I said, for the time being. It is not possible immediately to settle the status of Chandernagore. That will have to be done in consultation with the wish of the people of Chandernagore itself. That is one of the conditions that we have already promised to the people of Chandernagore. If they so desire, it will be so adjusted; it might be with the West Bengal Government or whatever they decide.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the method of ascertaining the wishes of the people of Chandernagore in this respect?

Dr. Keskar: The ordinary democratic method.

IMPORT OF BAMBOO

*1197. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that from bamboos imported from Burma fishing rods can be made which have extensive markets in dollar areas;

(b) if so, how much bamboo was imported from Burma and subsequently exported as fishing rods in foreign countries in the years 1949 and 1950;

(c) how many applications were received during the aforesaid period for the import of raw bamboo and export of finished products; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the applicants were ready to furnish guarantee of import if they were granted import licence to bring bamboo from Burma?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information regarding imports is not available as bomboos are not separately classified by Customs. Separate statistics regarding export of fishing rods made from indigenous and imported bamboos are also not maintained. Total export figures of bamboo fishing rods are as follows:

1948-49	...	Rs. 12,085
1949-50	...	Rs. 23,207

(c) Information is being collected.

(d) Under the Export Promotion Scheme import licences are granted only after export has taken place. There are no restrictions on exports. The question of applicants guaranteeing exports in advance does not arise.

After this reply was drafted I received some fresh information in which the hon. Member may perhaps be interested.

So far as import applications are concerned, I find that during July—December, 1950, three applications were received, and amounts of Rs. 20,000, Rs. 52,000 and Rs. 3,000 were granted against them.

Under the Export Promotion Scheme, during 1950, three applications were received, one case was rejected and another is receiving consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Sir, may I know whether some firms from Calcutta, last year, received import licences for importing bamboos from Burma and they gave a guarantee that they would export the same as finished products to the U.S.A.?

Shri Karmarkar: The question of giving a guarantee does not arise. I find that during July—December, 1950, three applications were received and those were granted.

HIGH SCHOOLS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN WEST BENGAL

*1198. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the grant of a loan of Rs. 5·77 lakhs was sanctioned to the West Bengal Government to meet the cost of construction of nine high schools in areas where colonies for displaced persons from Eastern Pakistan have been or are being established;

(b) if so, how many schools have been started and where they are located; and

(c) the number of displaced students reading in those schools?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Four Schools have been started at Habra (Kalyangar), Gayeshpur (Kanchrapara), Raiganj (West Dinajpur) and Mohitnagar (Jalpaiguri).

(c) 879.

Shri S. C. Samata: May I know whether the loan sanctioned and paid brings interest and if so for how many years?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got with me at the moment, the exact terms on which the loan was sanctioned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Are the displaced students taught free?

Shri A. P. Jain: Some are free; others pay fees.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is the grant only for the buildings or does it cover the cost of the equipment also?

Shri A. P. Jain: The grant is both for buildings and for equipment. The break-up is something like this:

Rs. 44,000 for each school for construction, Rs. 6,000 for sanitary fittings, Rs. 4,000 for tube-wells, Rs. 14,000 for teachers, office, library, furniture, sloping desks etc. for each school, and minimum reserve fund required by the university—Rs. 1,500.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the grant meant only for the establishing of the new schools?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes.

Shri A. C. Guha: Am I to understand that no separate grants are allotted for subsidising the existing schools where refugee students are being taught?

Shri A. P. Jain: That comes under a different scheme. This grant relates to the new schools.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the amount spent for subsidising the existing schools where refugee students also are being taught?

Shri A. P. Jain: There is no such subsidising of existing schools. Refugee students are being taken in the secondary schools, and if they are unable to pay their fees, then Government pays the fees.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the amount already spent out of this sum of Rs. 5·77 lakhs?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got the figures with me here.

लाला अचिंत राम : वेस्ट बंगाल में ऐसी कितनी कौलोनीज़ हैं जहां कि अभी तक हाई स्कूल शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध नहीं हो सका ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** How many colonies in West Bengal are such where facilities have not been provided for imparting education up to High School standard?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : नौ कौलोनीज़ के अन्दर स्कूल बनाने की तजवीज़ थी, जिसमें चार में बन गये हैं और पांच में बन रहे हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** It was proposed to start schools in nine colonies. Schools have been constructed in four of them and in the remaining five, they are being constructed.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the hon. Minister aware that there are several colonies near about Calcutta where there are no schools for the education of the boys and girls?

Shri A. P. Jain: There are a number of schools and colleges in Calcutta and the students residing near about Calcutta can come and attend those schools and colleges.

Shri A. C. Guha: There are colonies some ten or twelve miles off from Calcuta and will it be possible for the students from those places to come to Calcutta to attend the schools and colleges?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid that is entering into arguments.

Shri T. N. Singh: With regard to the fee charged in these schools, are the rates the same as those in other schools?

Shri A. P. Jain: In the same school there is no difference. Where the student is in a position to pay, he pays the fees, if not, Government pays the fees for him.

Shri Chattopadhyay: Out of the number of 879 given in the answer, may I know how many are really displaced students?

Shri A. P. Jain: My information is that except in the two schools at Raiganj and Mohitnagar where some students are local students, the rest are all displaced students.

Lala Achint Ram: Sir, no answer was given to my question.

Mr. Speaker: What was the question?

लाला अचिंत राम : मैं ने दरख्वास्त की थी कि मुझ बतलाइये कि कितनी ऐसी कौलोनीज़ हैं० जहां हाई स्कूल की शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध नहीं हुआ। उन्होंने जवाब दिया नौं में। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि कितनी कौलोनीज़ ऐसी हैं जहां शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध नहीं हुआ, कितनी कौलोनीज़ ऐसी हैं जहां कि हाई स्कूल शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध नहीं हो सका ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** I wanted to know the number of such colonies where provision has not been made for the education of High School Standard. The hon. Minister replied that there are nine such colonies. I want to know the number of colonies where facilities for education have not been provided for as also the number of colonies where provision could not be made for imparting education up to High School Standard?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जहां तक मेरी इतिला है, जहां पर भी कौलोनीज़ हैं, वहां पर उसके आस पास हाई स्कूल मौजूद हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** As far as I know, High Schools are situated near all those places where colonies have been set up.]

लाला अचिंत राम : उनकी गिनती कितनी है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** What is their number?]

IMPORTS

*1200. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to lay on the Table of

House a statement showing the amount of imports during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 under the heads—(i) capital goods, (ii) raw-materials, and (iii) consumer goods?

(b) Have overseas prices of the above-mentioned goods increased after the Korean War?

(c) If so, how will it affect our future imports?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the amount of imports during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51, under the heads (i) capital, (ii) raw-materials, and (iii) consumer goods.

(b) Prices of some scarce commodities have gone up in overseas markets where in case of some there has been a slight decrease.

(c) Imports will be regulated according to the amount of foreign exchange available from exports and sterling releases.

STATEMENT

The total imports of Plant & Machinery, Raw Materials and Consumer Goods for the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 (April to October 1950).

(Figures in thousand of rupees.)

Years	Plant & Machinery	Raw Materials
1948-49	79,53,93	1,27,50,25
1949-50	93,92,28	1,44,29,54
1950-51 (April to October, 50)	44,55,02	1,27,98,96

Years	Consumer Goods	Total
1948-49	2,36,11,11	44,31,529
1949-50	2,01,72,76	43,99,468
1950-51 (April to October, 50)	71,26,65	24,38,063

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, it appears from the statement that the imports under the head—"Plant and Machinery" for the year 1949-50 was as much as Rs. 93,92,28,000 and it has fallen to Rs. 44 crores during the year 1950-51. May I know whether this fall is due to the policy of the Government to curtail the import of capital goods or is it due to the scarcity of those goods, or their non-availability?

Shri Karmarkar: The reason is obvious, if the hon. Member goes through the statement carefully. The figure for 1949-50 is for the whole year, whereas the one for 1950-51 is only for six months.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of answer to part (b), may I know what is the price of razor blades and rubber tyres at the moment, and whether there are sufficient stocks available?

Shri Karmarkar: The stocks are available. Regarding the prices, I shall find them out and communicate them to the hon. Member.

Shri Sidhva: What is the stock available? There is no blade in the market to-day.

Prof. Ranga: In view of the fact that there is a clear evidence of a continued trend of prices rising, are Government taking any special steps to ensure that adequate orders are being placed for these capital goods and for other goods essential for the development of our industries?

Shri Karmarkar: As the hon. Member is perhaps aware, this question of capital goods and raw materials has been fully gone into and I may say that all the necessary steps are being taken in the proper direction.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact that steel is a very important material essential for our industries, and may I know what is the price of steel and is it possible to get adequate quantities of steel?

Shri Karmarkar: Regarding the first part of the question, obviously, steel is very important. And as regards the second part of the question, I want notice.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government has appointed a committee to study the supply position and the needs of the country in regard to important raw materials?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir: we are trying to implement the recommendations of the sub-committee as early as possible.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, my question regarding rubber tyres and blades has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member is going into details and I am not inclined to allow it.

Shri A. C. Guha: On what basis was the ceiling amount for the three years divided into the three categories—capital, raw-materials and consumer goods?

Shri Karmarkar: The basis on which the allocation of foreign exchange for purposes of import is fixed is this. We judge as to what amount of foreign exchange is available during a particular period or year. For the time being we are fixing allocations on the basis of imports for six months. We see the relative importance of capital goods, raw-materials for industry and consumer goods in their relative order of merit and make allocations accordingly.

INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN PAKISTAN

*1201. **Shri Ghule:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the currency in which the Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan and his staff are paid; and

(b) if they are paid in Indian currency, whether their salaries have been raised in proportion to the value of the Pakistan rupee?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The officers and staff in our Missions in Pakistan are being paid in Pakistan currency.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Ghule: What is the amount which is required to pay in excess due to the difference in the exchange ratio of Pakistan and Indian currency?

Dr. Keskar: I require notice.

DISPOSAL OF CLOTH BY MILL-OWNERS

*1202. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one third of the total produce in cotton textile mills is left to be disposed of by the owners of the mills?

(b) When was such permission given?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Early in 1949, the mills were faced with closure due to accumulation of cotton textiles with them. To liquidate the accumulations, the mills were permitted in September 1949 to sell one-third of their production of cloth and yarn to buyers of their own choice. This concession continued till the end of July 1950 when there were signs of shortage of cloth and yarn. The concession was withdrawn totally in the case of yarn with effect from 1st August 1950. As regards cloth, the free sale concession is subject to (i) whatever the mills export or sell for export being the first charge on this quantity and (ii) if mills export or sell for export more than one-third of their production, they are not permitted to sell anything further to buyers of their own choice. The question of withdrawing this concession is under consideration.

Shri Ghule: How many State Governments have made representations to the effect that these concessions should be stopped immediately and when were these representations made?

Shri Mahtab: Some State Governments have made representations to that effect.

Shri Tyagi: Why have these concessions been given? Are they required to sell it at the price fixed by the Government or can they sell at any price in spite of the concession?

Shri Mahtab: When the concession was granted they were required to sell the cloth at the controlled price.

Shri Tyagi: What is the benefit that they had? Why should the concession be given to them when there is no benefit to them?

Shri Mahtab: The history is this. In 1949 there was so much glut that cloth could not be sold and there was considerable accumulation in many mills. Therefore a conference of the representatives of State Governments was called here by the then Minister in charge and it was decided that mills should make their own arrangements for sale to a certain extent.

Shri Goenka: Are Government aware that most of the one-third of their production is sold in the black-market?

Mr. Speaker: All that is inferential.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether any arrangement has been made with the mills to distribute or sell the one-third part of the cloth produced on a State-wise or population basis?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already said in the reply that concession is in the process of being withdrawn. First of all export has been charged to the one-third. Further, as I have said, we are now considering withdrawing that concession. That being the position we cannot ask the mills as to how they should sell that one-third of their cloth production.

Shri Goenka: May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister was drawn to the fact that there was a black-market existing, when he was in Ahmedabad?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: The best course is to go to the next question.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCES

***1203. Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether India has any intention to do away with Imperial Preferences under the Agreement of 1939 between India and the United Kingdom?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The question of continuance or otherwise of the preferences granted under the Indo-U.K. Trade Agreement of 1939 has been examined by the Fiscal Commission who have recommended that negotiations with the U.K. Government and the Colonies should be initiated for the review of the whole position. The Commission's recommendations are at present under examination.

PAKISTAN PILGRIMS VISITING INDIA

***1204. Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) how many Pakistan Pilgrims visited India during the month of December 1950;

(b) whether the Government of India gave them free rail passage; and

(c) any other expenditure Government incurred on their account?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) During the month of December, 1950, the following pilgrim parties from Pakistan visited India:

(i) 195 Muslim pilgrims visited the Shrine of Kalyar Sharif in Roorkee (U.P.)

(ii) About 200 Muslim pilgrims visited Sirhind Sharif in PEPSU. The exact number is being ascertained from the Punjab (I) and PEPSU Governments.

(b) No.

(c) The State Governments concerned had to provide escort for the parties and to make appropriate security arrangements.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Indian pilgrims who went to Pakistan were given any such facilities by the Pakistan Government?

Dr. Keskar: As I have said the only facility that we give is to provide escort and to make security arrangements. When we send parties the Pakistan Government also provide escort and make the security arrangements.

लाला अचिंत राम : पाकिस्तान से हिन्दुस्तान में आने वाले यात्रियों की गिनती बढ रही है, या घट रही है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Is the number of pilgrims coming from Pakistan to India increasing or decreasing?]

Dr. Keskar: Does it arise out of the question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: If he has got comparative figures he may reply.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any such cases where permission was sought for and was refused by the Pakistan Government?

Dr. Keskar: There are one or two cases.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was any representation made to the Pakistan Government asking whether there were any special grounds for the refusal of the permission?

Dr. Keskar: If a specific instance is brought to my notice I can anwser the question.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there cases where our Government also refused permission likewise?

Dr. Keskar: In one case we have refused permission.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the ground?

Dr. Keskar: I have not got the particulars.

TRADE WITH AFGHANISTAN

***1205. Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what special facilities were given to the Afghan traders for the purchase and export of textiles to Afghanistan; and

(b) whether India is getting any special facilities from Afghanistan in matters of trade?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There are no special facilities which are given to the Afghan traders who like all other traders in India are allowed to export cloth according to the rules and regulations prescribed from time to time.

(b) A treaty of trade and commerce between India and Afghanistan for the development of mutual trade has already been concluded and is at present awaiting notification by the Afghan Government.

Prof. Ranga: May I know whether the recent order issued by the Government of India prohibiting the export of yarn to any other country applies to Afghanistan also?

Shri Karmarkar: Of course, yes.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Afghan traders who came to India a few months ago requested the Government for special facilities for the export of textiles from India?

Shri Karmarkar: They asked for special facilities in respect of the cloth that used to be exported earlier to Afghanistan. In view of that request we did grant facilities to local traders who used to deal with Afghanistan earlier.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know the quality of textiles that is allowed to be exported to Afghanistan?

Shri Karmarkar: The quality of our cloth is always good.

Shri Tyagi: Are any cattle imported from Afghanistan?

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDUSTRIAL TRUCE

***1199. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to renew the Industrial Truce and with what results?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Government have not taken any steps in this connection.

COTTON IMPORTS FROM U.S.A.

***1206. Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton imported from U.S.A. during 1950-51;

(b) what percentage it forms of the total requirement of cotton in our country in the same year; and

(c) whether the total import has reached India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) During the cotton year September 1950 to August 1951, 17,192 bales (of 400 lbs. each) have been imported up to 20th January 1951.

(b) 0.38 per cent.

(c) The quantity actually received up to 20th January 1951 is indicated above. About estimated imports it is yet too early to say to what extent they will actually materialise.

INDIAN FOREIGN SERVICE (PROBATIONERS)

***1207. Shri Ghule:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the explanatory note (t) to Demand No. 38 in respect of External Affairs (Supplementary Demands for Grants for expenditure in 1950-51) and state:

(a) the number of probationers originally intended to be trained in England and the Continent;

(b) how many more probationers are being trained now; and

(c) the names of the places where they are being trained?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Seven—four recruited in 1949 and three in 1950.

(b) Two—this does not mean an increase in the number of recruits but extension up to end of February 1951 of the period of training on the continent of two probationers recruited in 1948. Their period of training abroad should have normally expired early in 1950.

(c) Both are in Moscow.

REHABILITATION IN VINDHYA PRADESH

***1208. Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state what are the sums of money sanctioned and actually given for purposes of rehabilitation of displaced persons in various camps in Vindhya Pradesh?

(b) What is the total number of displaced families and how many of them have been permanently settled

and how many still remain to be settled?

(c) What are the sums of money given to them as subsidies and those that are given as loans in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(d) Is any interest charged on the loans given and what are the terms of repayment?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A sum of Rs. 29·62 lakhs has been sanctioned for urban and rural loans up to the end of the year 1950-51 to the State of Vindhya Pradesh. The amount actually distributed amongst displaced persons up to the end of November 1950 is Rs. 19,08,400. Another sum of Rs. 94,000 has been advanced by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration.

Information in regard to the amount of money disbursed among displaced persons in camps in Vindhya Pradesh is not available.

(b) Total number of displaced persons in the State is estimated at 21,000 but it is not possible to indicate precisely how many of them may be considered to be permanently settled in the absence of economic survey.

(c) The amount of money disbursed as loans upto date is Rs. 20,02,400. Information in regard to the amount spent on subsidies is being obtained and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) On loans advanced to State Governments by the Centre, interest is charged at the rate varying from 3 to 3½ per cent. depending upon the number of instalments in which the loan is to be repaid. No interest is, however, levied during the first year. Loans are repayable within six years from the date of payment of the last instalment. Recovery commences after 3 years after the payment of last instalment.

The procedure for recovery of Rural loans is as follows:

Loans for the purchase of bullocks are recovered in four half-yearly instalments after allowing the period of grace of 2½ years. Loans for the purchase of seed, fodder and agricultural implements are recovered in lump sum after allowing the maximum grace period of 1½ years. The rate of interest charged from displaced persons on rural loans is 4¼ per cent. per annum.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES

*1209. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Industrial Training Centres of the Government of India in the State of Punjab;

(b) the various places where these Centres are situated;

(c) the qualifications for admission to the said Centres; and

(d) the various trades and avocations in which training is imparted in the said Centres?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Eight, including one in Pepsu.

(b) Ambala.
Jullundur.
Amritsar.
Mandi.
Ludhiana.
Rohtak.
Phagwara.
Ferozepur.

(c) Candidates for training should, ordinarily, be between the ages of 18 and 25. They should have studied up to a standard two years below the Matriculation or its equivalent. Candidates for training as Draughtsmen, Surveyors, Instrument Mechanics, and other similar professions, should, however, have passed the Matriculation or an equivalent examination.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 17].

LEATHER INDUSTRY

*1210. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the amount that the Cottage Industry Board has sanctioned for the leather industry and in what way is this amount being distributed to the States?

(b) What is the quantity of export from and import to India of leather goods and raw hides in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No specific grant has been made for the leather industry from the funds available for the development of cottage industries. Grants have, however, been made to certain States for the expansion of activities in the field of cottage industries especially in regard to their schemes for rural industrialisation and the marketing of cottage Industries' products at home and abroad.

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

STATEMENT

Imports

Description	Quantity 1948-49	Quantity 1949-50
(1) Hides, raw (Tons)	7,867	1,276
(2) Bags & Trunks (Cwt)	50	72
(3) Pickers ,,	2,518	1,843
(4) Picking bands and straps ,,	5,333	4,056
(5) Roller Skins ,,	2,118	745
(6) Saddlery & Harness ,,	2	2
(7) Boots and Shoes—all leather (pairs)	1,47,770	24,356
(8) Leather manufactures— other sorts (excluding boots and shoes) (Cwt)	1,608	1,606

Exports

Description	Quantity 1948-49	Quantity 1949-50
(1) Hides, raw (Tons)	2,096	783
(2) Leather belting (Cwt)	15	48
(3) Boots and Shoes—all leather (Pairs)	18,09,479	6,81,632

WOOLLEN CLOTHES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*1211. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government have purchased woollen clothes during this winter season for displaced persons?

(b) If so, when were the tenders called for and what are the figures of purchase?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes. Only woollen blankets.

(b) 65,000 blankets were purchased for displaced persons during this winter season through the Directorate General of Industries and Supplies, who made purchases as follow:

(i) 50,000 against offers received in response to his telegraphic inquiry to his usual suppliers on 7th September, 1950.

(ii) 5,000 by means of a repeat order dated 27th November, 1950 on one of the suppliers of aforesaid blankets, and

(iii) 10,000 by negotiations on 2nd and 3rd January, 1951.

ENEMY PROPERTY AT AMRAVATI

*1212. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there was any property declared as enemy property in Amravati consisting of a ginning and pressing factory?

(b) Was it under the control of the Custodian of Enemy Property?

(c) Has this property been sold and if so, at what price, by whom and to whom?

(d) What were the previous offers communicated to the Custodian for this property?

(e) Were the State Government and the previous tenders consulted before finalizing the sale?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, two cotton ginning and pressing factories.

(b) Yes.

(c) The properties were sold on the 19th July 1950 by the Custodian of Enemy Property, Bombay, to M/s. Bachhraj Factories Limited, Bombay, for a sum of Rs. 2,70,000.

(d) The previous offers made for the properties were as follows:

In 1946 Rs. 3,75,000.
In 1950 Rs. 2,00,000.

(e) Before the tenders were called for, the State Government were informed that the Central Government proposed to sell the factories by public tender. The invitation for tender was advertised in the newspapers. No special intimation was sent to the State Government or to those who had made earlier offers.

TEXTILE MILLS

*1213. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of textile mills established in India since 1945?

(b) What is the capacity of each of the textile mills along with their location and capital invested?

(c) What is the number of spindles and looms in each of the textile mills and the amount invested in establishing the same?

(d) Are there any proposals for the establishment of new textile mills?

(e) If so, at what places, of what capacity and by what year are they expected to start working?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 18].

(d) and (e). A statement giving the location and the spindles allotted to each of the textile mills proposed to be established in pursuance of the

Cotton Textile Expansion Plan approved by the Government of India in their Resolution No. 205/TA/45 dated 4th May, 1946 is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix X, annexure No. 19].

Out of them, 19 mills have already started production and 23 others are in the course of erection. Remaining allottees have not received machinery from the suppliers and no definite date can be given as to when they will start production.

YARN

*1214. **Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the quantity of yarn produced during 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) What is the quantity of yarn exported during the respective periods of 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(c) What are the requirements of the country in yarn?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):

(a)

	Yarn in Lbs.
1948-49	1,474,338,000
1949-50	1,303,445,000
1950-51	870,122,000

(upto December 1950).

(b)

	Yarn in Lbs.
1948-49	7,407,540
1949-50	64,853,663
1950-51	31,460,342

(upto October 1950).

(c) Yarn.....400 million lbs. (For Handloom Industry and other Industrial purposes.)

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

*1215. **Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in pursuance of termination of the state of war with Germany, India proposes to wind up her Military Mission in Berlin; if so, when;

(b) whether there is a proposal to exchange diplomatic representatives with Germany, if so of what status or rank;

(c) whether our representative will be accredited simultaneously to East Germany as well as to West Germany: and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal to open separate diplomatic relations with East Germany?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) No.

(b) Yes. The matter is under consideration. But certain preliminary steps have to be taken before there can be an exchange of diplomatic representatives. For the present it is proposed to transfer the headquarters of the Head of our Military Mission to Bonn, the seat of the Government of West Germany.

(c) and (d). No approach has been made to us in this matter by the East German Government.

INVESTMENTS IN TEA INDUSTRY

*1216. **Shri Ramraj Tajware:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the amounts of foreign and Indian investments in India's tea industry at present?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Accurate date as to the different holding interests in the tea industry are being collected but out of 645 Joint Stock Companies with paid-up capital of over Rs. 50 crores engaged in the industry, 178 are sterling companies with a paid-up capital of about £28 millions and 467 are Indian companies with a paid up capital of about Rs. 13 crores.

IMPORT OF BICYCLES

*1217. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the policy in regard to the import of bicycles has been decided by Government?

(b) If so, what is the number of cycles that will be imported in the half year January—June, 1951?

(c) What is the quota allowed to established trade?

(d) What is the quota allowed to newcomers?

(e) Is any quota allowed to cycle manufacturers?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. Attention is invited to Commerce Ministry's Public Notice No. 161-ITC(PN)/50 dated the 15th December 1950.

(b) About one lac cycles are expected to be licensed in the half year January—June 1951.

(c) and (d). Established Importers will be granted licences on the basis of a quota of 40 per cent. of half of best Year's imports. Newcomers are not granted licences on a quota basis, but a monetary provision has been reserved for licensing to newcomers.

(e) The two newly established manufacturing concerns have been allowed to import complete cycles on an *ad hoc* basis. These firms are sole agents in India of the U. K. Manufacturers of Hercules and Raleigh cycles and are establishing factories in collaboration with those manufacturers. These prospective manufacturers will import cycles *minus* those parts and accessories which can be had of a satisfactory quality from indigenous sources and thereby it will be possible to import a larger number of cycles within the value licensed.

TEA (EXPORT)

*1218. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of tea exported out of India during the year 1950?

(b) What part of the export was sent to the United Kingdom?

(c) What was the value of the export referred to in part (b) above?

(d) Which are the countries which purchase Indian Tea at preferential rates?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):

(a) 1949-50 439,604,663 lbs.
1950-51 (upto October, 1950) 212,808,878 lbs.

(b) and (c).

	Quantity lbs.	Value Rs.
1949-50	275,396,986	42,11,14,474
1950-51 (upto October 1950)	138,828,929	22,99,14,414

(d) No country purchases tea at preferential rates.

INDIANS IN FIJI ISLANDS

*1219. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indians in Fiji Islands have any disability in respect of ownership of lands in Fiji Islands;

(b) if so, whether any representations have been made by the Government of India to the Government of Fiji or the U.K. Colonial Office in respect of such disabilities; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). A large majority of the holdings of Indians in Fiji are leases of lands owned by the indigenous inhabitants. A Native Land Reserve Commission appointed by the Colonial Government has proposed setting up a Native Reserve, from which all non-indigenous inhabitants will be dispossessed on the expiry of existing leases. Although it is stated that alternative land will be found for tenants thus dispossessed, no compensation for improvement of land is provided. This has caused great anxiety to the Indians in Fiji. The question of compensation has been taken up with the Administration of Fiji and the United Kingdom Colonial office.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BURMA

*1220. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Government of India are negotiating for a Trade Agreement with Burma mainly for securing a stable arrangement for the purchase of rice and timber?

(b) Is India at present having a favourable Balance of Trade with Burma?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) Yes, for the year 1949-50, and also for the period April to November 1950, during the current financial year.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA

*1221. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a Trade Agreement with Indonesia was recently signed by India and Indonesia for the supply of textiles and agricultural implements from India to that country?

(b) If so, what are the reciprocal arrangements with that country?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A trade agreement between India and Indonesia was signed recently, which includes textiles and agricultural implements in the list of Indian exports.

(b) A copy of the Agreement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 20.]

STATE AID TO COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

*1222. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Cottage Industry Board which met recently at Santiniketan regarding State aid to the existing cottage industries; and

(b) whether Government propose to implement those recommendations immediately and if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The following recommendations were made by the Cottage Industries Board at their meeting at Santiniketan on 20th and 21st January 1951 regarding State Aid to Cottage Industries:

(i) The Cottage Industries Directorate should collect information from the various States,

specially from the States of Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Hyderabad-Deccan with regard to the financial assistance that is being given to cottage industries in their areas. A note containing the information collected from the various States should be circulated to all the States inviting their comments on the subject.

(ii) The rigour regarding the security and the rate of interest demanded for advancing loans to Cottage Industries under the State Aid to Industries Acts in the States should be relaxed.

(b) The recommendations are under consideration.

BUILDING MATERIALS FOR ASSAM

*1223. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Government of Assam has been fully supplied with building materials, particularly corrugated iron sheets, asked for by them to rehabilitate the earthquake sufferers and if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The immediate requirements of corrugated iron sheets, mild steel rods and cement of the Government of Assam have been fully met.

ASSAULT ON INDIANS AT KATHMANDU

*1224. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Mr. Tribeni Sukla of Indian Embassy Staff and Mr. Ram Asis Ojha, both Indian Nationals, were seriously injured on the 26th December 1950, due to an assault made on them at Kathmandu by the Military and Police of Nepal Government?

(b) If so, what were the circumstances in which the assault took place?

(c) Have any steps been taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). According to the report received from our Embassy at Kathmandu, Mr. Tribeni Sukla and Mr. Ram Asis Ojha, were deliberately assaulted and injured by Nepalese Police and Military personnel when they were returning from the market at about 5 P.M. on the 26th December, 1950. The Nepalese Government who have since conducted an enquiry into the incident, at our instance, maintain, however, that the two persons were injured while participating in an anti-Government demonstration which was lathi-charged by the Nepalese Police and Armed Forces. They have assured us that they would take all steps to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. We have urged them to make further enquiries into the matter with a view to tracing the culprits and punishing them. We are also pressing them for the payment of compensation to the injured.

कार्मिक संघ

*1225 **श्री खापर्डे** : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) उन श्रमिकों की संख्या जिनका आई० एच० टी० यू० सी० प्रतिनिधान करती है और उससे कितने संघ सम्बन्द्ध हैं ;

(बी) उन संघों तथा श्रमिकों की संख्या जो अखिल भारतीय ट्रेड यूनियन कांग्रेस के साथ हैं; तथा

(सी) उन संघों की संख्या जो हिन्द मजदूर सभा से सम्बन्धित हैं ?

TRADE UNIONS

[*1225. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers that the I. N. T. U. C. represents and how many Unions are affiliated to it;

(b) the number of Unions and labourers that are with the All India Trade Union Congress; and

(c) the number of Unions that are affiliated to the *Hind Mazdoor Sabha*?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). According to the latest information obtained from the trade union organisation's concerned, their total all India membership figures together with the number of unions affiliated to them is as under:

Name of trade union organisation.	No. of affiliated unions.	Total membership.
(i) Indian National Trade Union Congress.	1235	15,14,082
(ii) All India Trade Union Congress.	729	7,06,194
(iii) Hind Mazdoor Sabha.	468	6,86,65

These have not yet been fully verified by the Government of India.

श्रमिकों का प्रव्रजन

*१२२६. श्री खापर्डे: क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) उन श्रमिकों की संख्या जो १९४७, १९४८, १९४९ तथा १९५० में दिल्ली में बाहर से आये हैं और जो बिना किसी घरबार के रास्तों तथा खुले स्थानों में रह रहे हैं, तथा

(बी) क्या सरकार इन श्रमिकों को दिल्ली में बसाने के प्रबन्ध पर विचार कर रही है, यदि हां, तो इस में कितना समय लग जायेगा ?

MIGRATION OF LABOURERS

[*1226. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers who have migrated to Delhi during the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 and who are living on footpaths and other open spaces without any shelter worth the name; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating to make arrangements for rehabilitating such labourers in Delhi and, if so, how long it will take to do so?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) There is no information regarding the number of migrated labourers who are without proper accommodation in Delhi.

(b) Besides trying to improve industrial housing in general, Government are not taking any steps to make any specific arrangement for housing labour of this particular category.

SHORT TERM PLAN

92. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Planning Commission has prepared any short term plan for the country?

(b) If so, will it be laid on the Table of the House?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Commission is engaged in considering the plans of States Governments and the Central Ministries which have been recently received.

(b) The procedure for placing the proposals prepared by the Planning Commission before Parliament is under consideration.

DEVELOPMENT OF COLLIERIES

93. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state how Government propose to fulfil the financial obligations involved in the development of various Government Railway Collieries?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the development schemes recommended by the Railway Collieries Enquiry Committee. These eighteen development schemes as well as arrangements for financing those finally approved by Government are under examination.

WORLD PRICES OF COAL

94. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative prices of various grades of coal per ton in terms of rupee, in India and other coal-producing countries, such as America, England, Russia, France, Germany, Japan etc.;

(b) the comparative wage level per labourer;

(c) the comparative *per capita* output;

(d) the causes of lower output *per capita* in India and the steps which Government have taken or propose to take for increasing the *per capita* output;

(e) how far the health of Indian miner is responsible for lower efficiency and output; and

(f) what steps have Government taken to improve the health of the Indian miner to bring it to the level of a foreign miner?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (c). Information in respect of other countries is not available and it is not therefore possible to give the comparative figures.

(d) to (f). The Working Party for the Coal Industry in which the Industry, Labour and Government are all represented, is examining these questions and their report is awaited.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

95. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether any plan has

been made for providing alternate accommodation to the squatters as well as those displaced persons who are to be evicted from Government quarters in Delhi?

(b) If so, what is the estimated expenditure to be incurred on that plan?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) It is not possible to estimate the total expenditure involved at this stage.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 7th February, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Anirudha Sinha (Bihar).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ESTIMATES OF FOOD PRODUCTION

***1227. Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what were the estimates of production of rice, wheat, jute, cotton, oil seeds during the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) What were the actual productions of those articles during those years?

(c) What is the machinery for calculating those estimates and for the actual productions?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). Statements giving the required information for the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 31]. Final forecast estimates for 1950-51 have not been issued.

(c) The forecast estimates are compiled from the figures supplied by the States, which are in turn based on the statistics of area, normal yield, and condition factor reported by their Revenue Officials, beginning at the village level with the Patwari in the temporarily settled areas and the village Chowkidar in the permanently settled areas.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that in the final analysis estimate is made on reports furnished by the village chowkidar?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The village chowkidar gives the first estimates and then they are checked by the superior officers right up to the District Officer.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether any random sampling is done?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes. As a matter of fact random sampling has been in force in several States such as West Bengal, Bombay, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and under the five year integrated plan it will cover the whole of India.

Shri A. C. Guha: Since when has this system been introduced?

Shri K. M. Munshi: If I remember aright random sampling was introduced in 1944 but it has been put into force more effectively during the last three years.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if there had been any difference between the estimate given by the Chowkidar and the random sampling estimate?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes, it has been found that in some cases the eye estimates have been higher. The scientific estimates in some cases have been less, in some more.

Shri Hussain Imam: Are the years to which the hon. Minister has referred trade years commencing from the 1st July and ending with the 30th June or are they financial years beginning from the 1st April and ending with the 31st March, *viz.*, the agricultural year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: From the 1st April to the 31st March during 1950-51.

Shri Hussain Imam: Will the hon. Minister kindly enlighten the House whether as a result of the random survey we have come to any conclusion as to how the visual estimates are to be modified?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact the two systems are entirely separate. One is more or less subjective

and in areas which have no land revenue system it depends upon guess work: whereas the other is a scientific system which takes every factor into account.

Shri T. N. Singh: What actual variations have been found between the sampling estimates and the estimates made by patwaries, especially in the States of U.P. and Rajasthan?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would require notice.

Shri Tyagi: Why were the estimates left to night watchmen instead of getting them from the revenue officers of the State who keep a record of the crops every harvest?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The distinction is between an area under a permanent settlement and an area under ordinary settlement where there is land revenue system. In regard to permanently settled areas there is no patwari there and the village chowkidar is the only responsible officer who gives the estimate. As regards the other areas where there is the land revenue system it is the patwari who goes from field to field and makes a complete enumeration.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if every acre was estimated or a certain percentage was left out of the chowkidar's estimate?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is entering into details.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी फिर से इस बात को देखेंगे कि हुसेन इमाम साहब के प्रश्न के उत्तर में जो वर्ष उन्होंने बतलाया है वह सही नहीं है क्योंकि खेती का वर्ष नवम्बर से अक्तूबर तक रहता है।

[**Seth Govind Das:** Will the hon. Minister reascertain the fact about the year, which he stated in reply to the question put by Shri Hussain Imam. It is not correct as the agricultural year commences from November and ends in October?]

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Diversion of Land from Rice to Jute Cultivation

*1228. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the acreage that has been diverted in West Bengal during the years 1949 and 1950 from rice to jute cultivation?

(b) What was the average yield of rice in those lands?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) During 1949 roughly 30,000 acres.

During 1950 1,53,000 acres.

(b) The average production of rice in these tracts is estimated by the Government of Bengal to be about one third of a ton per acre.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether any compensation was given to the West Bengal Government for their loss of rice due to diversion of land to jute?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact the assurance was given to the West Bengal Government that they will be given an extra 50,000 tons.

Shri A. C. Guha: Would the hon. Minister be surprised to know that the West Bengal Government's estimate was that two lakh acres of land were diverted?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The definite estimate given by the West Bengal Government itself was 1,53,000 acres.

Shri Gautam: Is it the policy of the Government to encourage commercial crops in preference to food crops?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is not the policy of the Government to encourage cash crops but under the integrated programme a certain quantity of cotton and jute has to be produced in order to keep our industries running and in order to earn the foreign exchange with which to buy foodgrains.

Shri S. N. Sinha: How much more dollar has been earned on account of increased jute production due to diversion?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In 1950-51 the additional production as a result of this diversion was 3,52,500 bales and the saving by stopping import was equivalent to Rs. 76,50,000. whereas the loss was only Rs. 3 crores. So the gain was 4.59 crores.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the difference in terms of rupees of the yield per acre in West Bengal through cultivation by jute and the same area cultivated with rice?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would require notice.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it the general policy of the Government to compensate all States for producing more

jute or it is only confined to West Bengal?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Wherever jute could be grown it is the policy of the Government to have a larger yield of jute for meeting the demands of our industry and to earn foreign exchange.

Shri M. L. Gupta: Has this diversion been made under some country-wide crop-planning or was it done in a haphazard manner? If it has been done on a crop-planning method, then would the hon. Minister lay on the Table a copy of the crop-planning scheme for the country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, there is a certain amount of planning which may not be quite exact, but attempts are made to earmark certain areas which are suitable for certain crops.

Recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee on Railways

*1229. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee on Railways constituted in May 1949; and

(b) if so, to what extent would employees be benefited thereby?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Government have considered and passed orders on most of the recommendations made by the Committee; except a few, they have been accepted. It is expected that the examination of the remaining recommendations will be finalised shortly.

(b) It is anticipated that the recommendations so far accepted will benefit railway employees to the extent of about two crores of rupees per annum.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what are the main recommendations of the Committee?

Shri Santhanam: The Committee has made recommendations on over a thousand issues and we are publishing a booklet giving full details of all the recommendations accepted.

Shri Frank Anthony: Was one of the recommendations of the Committee that the pre-1931 staff be asked to exercise their option in respect of the C.P.C. scales by a particular date?

Shri Santhanam: I don't know if there is a recommendation on those lines. I wish the hon. Member would put down a separate question on that point.

Shri Meeran: May I know when that booklet will be available to Members of this House?

Shri Santhanam: I hope it will be available by the time of the Railway Budget.

Shri Frank Anthony: Did the Advisory Committee have anything to do with the proposal about a 54-hour week?

Shri Santhanam: It is an adjudicator's award and it has been implemented. This Committee had nothing to do with the question of hours.

Indo-Pakistan Conference

*1230. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the result of the Indo-Pakistan Conference at Secretariat level which took place on or about the 18th and 19th December, 1950?

(b) What were the important subjects discussed at this Conference?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). A copy of the agenda and the record of discussions of the Indo-Pakistan Secretariat level Conference held in December, 1950, is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 22].

Shri Sidhva: From the statement it appears that machinery had to be set up for implementing the agreements arrived at for migrants to go from one country to another. May I know whether that machinery has been set up, and, if so, how many people have gone from one country to another for settling their claims?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is in the course of being set up. I am afraid I am unable to give the number of people who have gone from one country to another.

Shri Sidhva: What were the important issues which were held over, which were not discussed and settled?

Shri Gopalaswami: We shall have to go through the decisions on each of the items in the agenda to find out what was held over for future discussion.

Shri Sidhva: One of the items was the question of military stores for

which Pakistan has to pay to India Rs. 16 crores. May I know whether that question was discussed and whether it was settled or held over?

Shri Gopalaswami: Could the hon. Member refer me to the particular item of the agenda?

Shri Sidhva: The item is 'military stores'. Rs. 16 crores is to be paid to India by Pakistan.

Shri Gopalaswami: There is a decision on that item which also has been laid on the Table.

Shri Sidhva: I have read the statement but it is not clear on that item. I have got the statement here. I have hurriedly gone through its 27 pages within the short time available. I don't find therein any result of the discussion. It is only mentioned, "It was discussed". What happened as a result? I don't know.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Minister could give an answer without reading the whole statement he may.

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid I cannot give an offhand answer to such a question without going in detail through the paper.

Shri Tyagi: Was the question of canal waters and the question of exchange of displaced persons' property or compensation also discussed in the conference?

Shri Gopalaswami: No. This was a different kind of Conference.

IMPORT OF FERTILIZERS

*1231. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to his statement during the last food debate that he is making a complete inquiry regarding the fertilizer transactions and state whether the inquiry is complete?

(b) What quantity of fertilizers was ordered and to what extent sanction of the respective Ministries was obtained before the orders were placed?

(c) What is the total value of orders placed?

(d) Are there any fertilizers lying unused and are they now fit for use?

(e) How many officers have been dismissed or transferred after this deal was made?

(f) At what price were these fertilizers purchased and what is the price at present?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes. A statement on the subject is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). During July-December 1949, firm indents for 1,48,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia were placed in foreign markets as against import of 4,00,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance between July 1949 and June 1950 which was the normal fertiliser year. The fertilizer year was subsequently changed to a calendar year and a further quantity of 4,00,000 tons of fertilisers was indented between January 1950 and December 1950. Thus, a total quantity of 5,48,000 tons of fertiliser of the value of Rs. 16,86,63,300, was indented during 1½ years from July 1949 to 31st December, 1950, as against which the financial sanction was for 4,00,000 tons for one year from July 1949 to June 1950.

I may add here that on enquiries made from Shri R. K. Patil, the then Food Production Commissioner, it is learnt that the excess quantity was indented for in anticipation of demands being made by the States in the following six months, that is, July to December 1950.

(d) Yes. Nearly 1,15,000 tons with the State Governments and about 20,000 tons with the Central Government. The entire quantity is fit for use, because sulphate of ammonia does not deteriorate in storage.

(e) One officer has been dismissed.

(f) The average price at which these fertilisers were purchased by the Ministry of Industry and Supply for the Ministry of Agriculture was about £23-24 per ton C and F Indian Ports. The present price is also about the same.

Shri Sidhva: With regard to part (a) of the answer where the hon. Minister stated that a statement is laid on the Table. I would submit, Sir, that I have read the statement which is a very important one—it is about the dismissal of a certain officer. Would it not be to the benefit of the House if it could be read?

Shri Sondhi: It is a small statement Sir. But it refers to a question where over one crore has been wasted.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What is the length of the statement.

Shri Sidhva: Only one page. And it is a very important one.

Mr. Speaker: All right. He may read it.

Shri K. M. Munshi: A report from a reliable source was received in June 1950 indicating that Shri C.S.D. Swamy, Director of Fertilisers in the Ministry was guilty of corrupt practices. In addition to the bribe which he himself had to pay, this source quoted other instances in which bribes had been received by Shri Swamy. The matter was further inquired into and another person connected with fertiliser work gave information corroborating some of the allegations against Shri Swamy. The Special Police Establishment of the Ministry of Home Affairs were then asked to conduct further inquiries. Inquiries were accordingly made and the possibility of a criminal prosecution was examined in consultation with the Inspector-General of Special Establishment. It was, however, decided that since there was a distinct possibility of witnesses resiling from giving evidence in a court of law, it was preferable to take departmental proceedings, and the hon. Minister for Agriculture accordingly appointed a Departmental Inquiry Committee consisting of the Secretaries of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and a Joint Secretary of the Agriculture Ministry. The Committee handed over to Shri Swamy the statement of allegations against him and asked him whether he pleaded guilty or not. Shri Swamy's attitude throughout the inquiry was to avoid entering a positive plea. He stated that he did not want the Departmental Inquiry to proceed further and that he was prepared to accept whatever departmental punishment was ordered against him. The Committee then recommended that Shri Swamy be dismissed from service and with the concurrence of the U.P.S.C. the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture passed an order of dismissal against him.

An inquiry was at the same time ordered into the indenting for purchase and import of fertilisers and their storage for the period July '49 to December 1950. Shri K. R. K. Menon, Secretary of the Ministry of Finance was entrusted with the enquiry. Shri Menon's report makes the following points:

(a) That there was over-indenting of Sulphate of Ammonia between July 1949 and December 1950.

(b) That this indenting took place without the approval of the Ministry of Finance.

(c) As required by the rules, proper indents bearing a certificate that the approval of the Finance Ministry had been obtained were not placed on the buying Ministry of Industry and Supply.

(d) This over-indenting resulted in a loss (1) to the consumer inasmuch as purchases were made at a time when prices were high and inasmuch as avoidable expenditure was incurred on storage, rebagging, etc., (2) of foreign exchange, most of which was hard currency.

Shri Menon also drew attention to the fact—and this was confirmed by a further inquiry which was ordered into the Ministry's storage and distribution arrangements at Bombay—that the agents entrusted with this work had sold about 1300 tons of fertilizers and had collected Rs. 4,41,000 without crediting this amount into a Government treasury for nearly 6 months. It was also found that the contract for this work had remained unsigned for nearly a year.

Steps have been taken to rectify this omission and the money due from the agents has been recovered from them.

As regards the Finance Secretary's report the Ministry agree that indents were not placed with proper financial concurrence and that the rules regarding the placing of indents were not followed. Quantities indented for exceeded the demands placed with the Centre and purchase therefore came about at a time when prices were higher than they would have been if the purchase had been deferred.

On enquiries made from Shri R. K. Patil, the then Food Production Commissioner, it is learnt that the excess quantity was indented for in anticipation of demands being made by the States in the following six months, i.e., July to December 1950.

The Officer who was mainly responsible for these errors, Shri Swamy, has already been dismissed from service. The displeasure of Government is being communicated to the Joint Secretary in charge of this section for his failure to ensure that the appropriate financial sanctions were obtained, and strict instructions have been issued that the regular procedure is adopted in future.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any definite charges were made against the various officers? What is the reason for Government merely communicating its displeasure to the

Joint Secretary? Was there no direct evidence for prosecuting him or taking Departmental action against him?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the Joint Secretary is concerned, the only thing was his omission to get the concurrence of the Finance Ministry. Therefore, with the concurrence of the hon. the Finance Minister I have come to this decision that displeasure of Government be conveyed to him.

Shri Tyagi: This is quite enough to dismiss him.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the seriousness of the mistake, may I know whether Government would reconsider their decision and dismiss this officer?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The decision that Government has come to is what I have read out, but in the light of what the hon. Member says we may reconsider the decision.

Shri Sidhva: About the contractor who had kept Rs. 4 lakhs without being credited to the Treasury for six months, the statement merely says that the amount has been recovered. I want to know what steps have been taken against the contractor.

Shri K. M. Munshi: It was orally alleged that in terms of the agreement he was entitled to sell the fertilizers provided by Government. So, there was no way of doing anything against him except recovering the amount.

Shri Sidhva: But who was responsible for allowing this amount to be kept by the contractor without being credited to the Treasury and was any action taken against the officer concerned?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know personally whether any action was taken, but it was all handled by Mr. Swami.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether Mr. Swami was alone directly responsible for this or were there other officers also? Have Government taken note of this?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have to enquire. I cannot say at the present moment.

Shri Sondhi: In view of the fact that over-indenting was done, how is it that the amount was paid for the over-indented fertilizers? As you know, the system is that unless a certain amount is passed and sanctioned by the Finance Department, no payment can be made. How was the payment made in this case, and who was responsible for this over-payment?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Mr. Menon's report is silent on that point. I will ascertain.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I shall allow more questions, but Members should put them one by one.

Dr. Deshmukh: Out of the amount that was spent on the purchase of these fertilizers, namely, Rs. 16 crores, has Government borne any loss on the supply of these fertilizers to cultivators, and if so, how much is the loss?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Government has not suffered any loss. On the contrary, there is a small margin left which is given back to the States for giving rebate to the consumers.

Shri Sidhva: What is the loss sustained by cultivators?

Mr Speaker: Let there be no argument.

Shri Tyagi: According to the rules, is it not necessary that when the Industries Ministry wishes to make any purchases, it should obtain a certificate that the purchase can be made and if so, was such a certificate obtained in this case from the Finance Ministry?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No certificate was obtained.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if Mr. Swami kas now been engaged by the I.C.I. on a very high pay after dismissal from here?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know anything about that.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Arising from the reply given by the hon. Minister about the withholding of the prosecution, may I know how many witnesses about whom it was feared that they would resile from their statements were officials?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There were only two. They were not officials.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know the estimated loss which the country has suffered on account of this over-indenting and high prices?

Shri K. M. Munshi: When the report was made, the estimated loss was over Rs. 1 crore, but on account of world conditions, the prices have risen today!

Prof Ranga: Was it not the duty of the Finance Ministry to ascertain whether its sanction had been obtained or not before the money was paid out, and would Government consider the advisability of getting this matter enquired into by someone who is not connected with the Finance Ministry?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as this suggestion is concerned, I did not apply my mind to it. All that I did was to get Mr. K R. K. Menon to enquire into this matter through my hon. colleague the Finance Minister.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Out of the non-official witnesses, may I know whether any of them were such as used to obtain contracts from this Department, and if so, have they been debarred from getting such contracts in future?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the witnesses are concerned there is one man who complained. I do not think he has any connection with the Department. So far as the other one is concerned, he was not a contractor.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Were any steps taken to record their statements under section 164 Cr. p. c.

Mr. Speaker: Now, we are going into much more detail. Members merely wanted to know about the transaction and I permitted questions. If they want to do more, the matter can be a subject for discussion during Budget time.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what has been done about the contractor who kept Rs. 4 lakhs? Is he even now getting contracts for these fertilizers?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The money has been recovered and his contract has terminated by flux of time and it is not renewed.

Shri Sidhva: Was he blacklisted?

Mr. Speaker: No interruptions.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Did Government seriously believe that such a big fraud could have been perpetrated by the efforts of one man alone and there was no clique or group behind him who assisted him in doing that?

Shri K. M. Munshi: One can only go on the evidence recorded; one cannot imagine things.

Mr. Speaker: I think we shall go to the next Question.

Shri Tyagi: What about the rest of the gang?

Purchase of Food Grains from Abroad

*1232. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ambassador in U.S.A. has been successful in having a grain deal with the U.S.A. for the ensuing year;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of grain that has been entered into in the deal and at what price;

(c) within what period the shipments will be made;

(d) whether Malaya has agreed to sell rice to India and if so, what quantity and at what price;

(e) whether a Republican Representative in New York has given notice of a resolution in the Senate favouring U.S. assistance to India to meet the demand for food which is scarce in India and if so, the result of that resolution; and

(f) whether there has been any condition attached to it in the deal for the purchase of cereals from U.S.A.?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The matter is still under negotiation.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) No. Malaya is an importer of rice.

(e) Government have no knowledge of it.

(f) Does not arise.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the fact that the matter is still under negotiation, I would like to reserve my questions.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Arising out of (f), may I know whether the Government of America are prepared to give cereals to us on the condition that the work of distribution shall be done through American agency?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have already said, the matter is under negotiation and there is no such condition annexed, so far as I know at present.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that there was a fair chance of the American Congress passing a Bill in 1950 to provide for selling to India one million tons of foodgrains at half the market price, and with the facility of the amount being paid within ten or fifteen years but that the Government of India decided not to seek such aid at the instance of our Washington Embassy?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That question does not seem to arise nor is it in the public interest to answer it.

Shri B. K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact, Sir, that Russia is prepared to supply us foodgrains and that we are deliberately refusing to accept it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as I know, there has been no offer from Russia.

FOOD GRAINS FROM ABROAD

*1233. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the arrival of food grains from abroad is being delayed because of shipping difficulties as well as the non-availability of required space on ships at fair rates?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether all the ships of Indian Shipping companies are engaged for importing foodgrains?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the Indian shipping companies are concerned, they have got very few ships which can go across oceans and with what they have they are carrying on their own trade. We have, therefore, to get these ships from the world markets.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the quantity of foodgrains which are scheduled to be imported into the country by March this year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think about 12 lakhs.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether these food imports will enable Government to restore the recently announced 25 per cent. cut in ration?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As the hon. Member knows, I am going to make a statement and I think he may reserve his curiosity till then.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, to what extent freight rates have gone up, as compared with normal freight rates?

Shri K. M. Munshi: They have gone up—it depends upon the country from which the ship is to come.

Shri T. N. Singh: Say America.

Shri K. M. Munshi: From U.S.A. it has gone up by 57 per cent.; from Australia 95 per cent. and from Argentine 141 per cent.

Shri T. N. Singh: Have these rates gone up only in the case of foodgrains; or generally?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Freight rates of all commodities.

Prof. Ranga: Are any steps being taken at high level to negotiate for the allotment of larger shipping space for the transport of foodgrains to India not only with America but also with Canada, England and especially with the Scandinavian countries?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes.

Shri Hussain Imam: Has the Government of India taken any steps for the purchase of foreign tonnage by the Indian companies which they have been anxious to buy and in which they have received no help from the Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No decision has been taken.

Shri Gautam: Have these rates gone up only in the case of India or in the case of other countries also?

Shri K. M. Munshi: All over—as a result of world conditions.

Shri T. N. Singh: Has any approach been made by the Government to shipping companies to reduce their freight, especially in the case of foodgrains?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact negotiations have been going on, but the foreign shipping companies are not likely to give any concession.

Shri T. N. Singh: What rates do our Indian shipping companies charge for such consignments?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have already said there are very few ships of Indian companies which are capable of going to foreign countries and bringing back foodgrains.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या आस्ट्रेलिया की सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार को यह लिखा है कि उनकी कई जहाज़ जो पहले यात्रियों के काम में आतो थीं, अब कारगो के काम में आ सकती हैं, और वह उनको इंडियन शिपिंग कम्पनीज़ को बेचने के लिए तैयार हैं?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Have the Government of Australia informed the Government of India that several of their ships, which used to carry passengers, can now be utilised for carrying cargo, and they are willing to sell them to the Indian Shipping Companies?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice of that.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that Indian shipping companies are bound by 'Conference rules' not to reduce rates?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am not aware of it: I should like to have notice of that question.

PROCUREMENT AND SALE PRICES OF FOOD GRAINS (AJMER)

*1234. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what were the procurement prices of the different varieties of food grains fixed in the State of Ajmer during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) what were the sale prices on the average at which wheat, barley, maize, *jowar* and *bajra* were sold at the ration shops in the State of Ajmer during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) what were the prices at which these food grains were sold by Government in the State of Ajmer to the rural area under the informal system of rationing; and

(d) what was the extent of disparity between similar grains sold at ration shops and those sold in such areas mentioned in part (c) and the reasons for this disparity?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving the necessary information. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 23.]

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 24.]

(c) The prices given in the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to part (b) of the question were applicable to the supplies made to the rural areas under the informal system of rationing.

(d) There was no disparity in rates in so far as ex-godown prices were concerned, but as the distribution in the rural areas involved additional handling, transport, and other incidental charges, the dealers were authorised to effect recovery of these charges at rates varying from 2½ ch. to 5 ch. per rupee depending on the distance between the Government godowns and the distribution centres.

ALLOTMENT OF FOOD GRAINS TO AJMER

*1235. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quota of food grains allotted to the State of Ajmer during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, and what is the quota fixed for the year 1951;

(b) what was the quantity of the various food grains procured in the State of Ajmer during these years, and what was the estimated and actual produce of food grains in the State of Ajmer during these years;

(c) what is the estimated quantity of various kinds of food grains to be procured during the year 1951 and on what basis such estimate is arrived at;

(d) whether the procurement was on voluntary or compulsory basis; and

(e) whether there exist any restrictions on inter-sub-divisional movement of food grains in the State of Ajmer, and if so, the reasons for such restrictions?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The quotas allotted to Ajmer for 1948, 1949 and 1950 were as follows:

1948	...	23,000 tons
1949	...	38,000 tons
1950	...	37,000 tons

For 1951 a quota of 25,000 tons has been fixed.

(b) The total production and procurement of cereals in Ajmer during these years were:

(In tons)

	Estimated production	Actual Procurement
1948	48,000	Negligible
1949	29,000	Less than thousand tons
1950	24,000	2,000

(c) There will hardly be any procurement in 1951.

(d) The procurement in the past was on voluntary basis.

(e) Movement of all foodgrains is banned only from the Sub-Divisions of Kekri and the statutory rationing areas *viz.* the city of Ajmer and the towns of Beawar and Nasirabad. Movement from Kekri Sub-Division, which is the only surplus area in the State has been banned to check smuggling as it adjoins Rajasthan. Any movement therefrom to other Sub-Divisions in the State also has to pass through Rajasthan and is allowed under permit. Restriction on movement from statutory rationed areas is the normal restriction imposed in all such areas to enforce rationing. Import of foodgrains into these areas is allowed only under a permit against surrender of ration cards by the party concerned.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the main cause for the low procurement is the very low procurement price fixed by Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Procurement prices are fixed on an all-India basis.

at a certain price so as to prevent a rise in the cost of living index.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question was whether the cause for the low procurement is the very low procurement price fixed.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, opinions differ on that question.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the cost of production of *Jowar* per acre in Ajmer is comparatively much higher than in the other Provinces?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think so.

Shri Gautam: Is the Government aware that the cost of production is higher than the procurement price in some areas?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, that is not so. That is the information.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that in all the States the procurement price is about half the market price, may I know whether the Government of India would increase the procurement price?

Shri K. M. Munshi: You mean, not the market price, but the black-market price?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, no. The market price. Everywhere it is the market price.

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no doubt that on account of the scarcity of foodgrains in the country the black-market prices are very much higher than the procurement prices. But the procurement prices have to be maintained in order to maintain the economy of the country—to keep down prices and to see that various other factors such as inflationary factors do not come into operation.

Prof. Ranga: So that the Grow More Food Campaign can fail!

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether it is a fact that the procurement prices fixed by Government are much lower than the control prices at which the commodities are sold at the ration shops?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is not correct. Only the extra expenses incurred in distribution are added.

Shri M. L. Gupta: The hon. Minister stated with reference to part (b) that the figures of production for 1948, 1949 and 1950 as 48,000 tons, 29,000 tons and 24,000 tons respectively. Can the hon. Minister give the reasons for the fall in production except the uneconomic prices we are paying?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, I would like to have notice of the question.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the selling price and the procurement price in Ajmer, may I know?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice of that question also.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether at the time of fixing the quota the famine-stricken condition of Ajmer was taken into consideration?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Oh yes, certainly.

Post and Telegraph Offices

***1236. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number of Post and Telegraph offices existing in the territory of the Indian Union on 31st December, 1949;

(b) the number of Post and Telegraph offices existing in the various Part B States under the respective States control and management and those under the control and supervision of the Government of India in the year 1949-50;

(c) the number of Post and Telegraph offices taken over by the Government of India from the respective States;

(d) the number of additional Post and Telegraph offices started separately in the urban and rural areas of the Indian Union in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 (upto end of December 1950);

(e) the number of villages in the State of Ajmer with a population of 2,000 and over, and in how many villages Post Offices existed prior to March, 1949; and

(f) how many additional village Post Offices were started in the State of Ajmer since then?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) to (f). A statement showing the information asked for is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 25.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहां तक (डी) का सम्बन्ध है मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जितने पोस्ट आफिस इस साल गवर्नमेंट ने बजट के वक्त नये खोलने के लिये तय किया था उतने खुल चुके है या नहीं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** So far as (d) is concerned, I want to know whether those post offices, which the Government had proposed to open at the time

of the Budget Session have been opened or not?]

श्री खुर्शेद लाल : पिछले सैशन में मैं ने बताया था कि हमारा इरादा ४८०० नये डाकखाने खोलने का था, लेकिन बाद में रुपया कम हो जाने से ३००० के करीब खुल सके हैं।

[**Shri Khurshed Lal:** In the last session it was stated that we had proposed to open 4,800 new post offices, but due to lack of funds only 3000 could be opened.]

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the principle governing the policy of the Government in opening post offices particularly in the rural areas?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That, Sir, has been explained times without number.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the new post offices that have been opened have been opened in all the Provinces on some basis or whether only particular Provinces have been selected?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That also I explained long ago. This year the policy was to give a post office to every village having a population of 2,000. That would have entailed the opening of 4,800 post offices. The programme had to be stopped about November. Till then whatever post offices had been opened by the various P.M.Gs. came to 3,000.

Jute Production

***1237. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute required by the mills in India in 1951 as envisaged at present;

(b) the quantity produced in 1950;

(c) the quantity of estimated yield in 1951; and

(d) the acreage to be diverted in 1951, if any, from food crop to jute cultivation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 60 lakh bales, including jute substitutes.

(b) 32·3 lakh bales exclusive of jute substitutes.

(c) The target for 1951 is 45·6 lakh bales.

(d) About 5 lakh acres.

Shri Barman: When there is a great deficiency as regards the target of jute production in 1951 and as regards the target of production in the mills, how do the Government propose to fill up the deficiency?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is proposed to divert an area of 5 lakh acres from foodgrains to jute during 1951-52.

Shri Barman: Have Government taken any steps to increase the production of jute by intensive cultivation methods and by the application of chemical manure?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It has been so done.

Shri Barman: Are there any statistics available for last year as to the area of land that has been operated with this intensive cultivation method and if so what is the extra production of jute out of it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice of the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: How much of the jute produced this year has yet come to the mills?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I cannot say that without notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: How is the Government proposing to fill up the gap between this year's requirement and the actual production?

Mr. Speaker: I think that has been replied to.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Attempts are being made to secure as much jute as we can.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know the quantity of loss of foodgrains as a result of diversion of land to jute cultivation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have given it more than once in the House and I have just mentioned it in the course of my reply a few minutes ago.

Shri M. L. Gupta: Can the hon. Minister inform the House whether, in diverting land for jute cultivation, the area giving the highest yield in jute is taken into consideration?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Only the most suitable lands are taken for jute cultivation.

Shri Himatsingka: I couldn't hear the answer given to part (b). May I ask him to repeat it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I said 32·3 lakh bales, exclusive of jute substitutes.

Shri Himatsingka: Does the hon. Minister know that even including substitutes the actuals will fall far below 30?

Shri K. M. Munshi: These estimates were made at a conference which I held at Calcutta on the 4th of January, 1951, between the Ministers of producing States and their officials. I know that the trade agrees with the figures and disagrees with the figures—it raises it and lowers it from time to time.

Pandit Kunzru: With regard to the estimate of jute production for 1951, have steps been taken to increase the production to that extent, or are Government only planning to increase jute production to the quantity stated by the hon. Minister?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as 1951-52 is concerned the matter has been decided, as I have submitted in that Conference to earmark certain acreage of land for that purpose. Steps are being taken to see that the target is fulfilled, but as the hon. Member knows in all agricultural matters, it depends on some other factors for success.

BAGDOGRA AERODROME

*1238. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned in 1950-51 for construction of the 'Bagdogra' Aerodrome and attached installations;

(b) what is the amount spent so far;

(c) when the runway is to be constructed; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to shift the site to Jalpaiguri District?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) An amount of Rs. 1,24,160 has been sanctioned for the development of the Bagdogra aerodrome during the current financial year.

(b) A total amount about 4·5 lakhs has been spent on the development of this aerodrome since it was taken over by the Civil Aviation Department in February 1948. This includes about Rs. 80,000 expended up to December 15, 1950, out of the expenditure sanctioned for 1950-51.

(c) A temporary P.S.P. runway is already available at the aerodrome. The construction of a permanent runway will be taken up during the next financial year and is expected to be completed by the end of 1952-53.

(d) Government do not propose to abandon Bagdogra aerodrome in favour of Jalpaiguri.

Shri Barman: Have the Ministry got representations from the Indian Tea Planters Association and the general public of Jalpaiguri saying that there is a great need of an aerodrome in that District?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That is so, including a representation from the hon. Member himself.

Shri Barman: Is the Government still prepared to give pierced steel-plates if the Provincial Government propose to build a temporary aerodrome at Jalpaiguri?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): Whatever the Provincial Governments demand, we try to comply with.

Shri A. C. Guha: How many aerodromes are there in West Bengal which have not a concrete runway?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That is a question which, I am afraid, I cannot answer without notice.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what other aerodromes are to be opened this year and if any are to be closed?

Mr. Speaker: The question refers only to one.

IMPORT OF WHEAT

*1239. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of wheat imported from different countries into India during 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) what is the difference between the C.I.F. values of wheat imported from different countries?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). Two statements one showing quantitative accounts of imported foodgrains which are maintained by calendar years and the other showing C.I.F. value of wheat imported from different countries for the years 1949 and 1950 are laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT I

The Quantitative accounts of Imported foodgrains during the Calendar years 1949 and 1950

(Quantity in thousand tons)

Name of countries	1949	1950
U. S. A.	367	50
Australia	762	762
Argentine	299	482
Canada	296	3
Russia	302	-
Pakistan	1	-
Total	2027	1297

STATEMENT II

The C.I.F. value of wheat imported from different Countries during the Calendar years 1949 and 1950

(C & F Price per maund in Rs.)

Name of countries	1949	1950
U. S. A.	14-2-0	14-2-0
Australia	12-5-0	13-0-0
Argentine	14-0-0	13-6-0
Canada	14-2-0	14-2-0
Russia	13-0-0	..
Pakistan	14-13-0	..

श्री बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारतीय किसान को गेहूं की क्या कीमत दी जा रही है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state as to what price of wheat is being given to the Indian cultivator?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: But this relates to Indian imported foodgrains.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know the price of wheat given to the Indian cultivator.

Shri K. M. Munshi: In a previous question on procurement, the prices were mentioned.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the price of wheat imported from other countries compares favourably as against the wheat procured in this country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The rates of wheat procured in the country are higher than the rates of imported foodgrains. in wheat particularly.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that negotiations are in progress with Canada for the export of wheat, and if so, for what quantity?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think we have already negotiated a contract with Canada and another one is being negotiated.

Shri M. L. Gupta: May I know whether the high price of wheat is an impediment in our approaching Russia for importing it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Which country has supplied us the cheapest wheat?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In the year 1949 or 1950? In 1949, I think, Australia and in 1950, I think, we have bought under the wheat agreement and the price is the same.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: How does it compare with the Indian produced wheat?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Indian wheat is very much higher.

SWEEPERS ON RAILWAYS

*1240. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sweepers employed in E.I.R., E.P.R., G.I.P., and B.B. & C.I. Railways; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to improve their conditions of service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) E.I. Railway.—6497.

E.P. Railway.—1654.

G.I.P. Railway.—4279.

B.B.&C.I. Railway.—2622.

(b) The conditions of service of sweepers, who are Class IV staff, have been improved in almost all directions, *i.e.*, in the matter of their pay and allowances, leave, provident fund, special contributions to provident fund/gratuity, etc. as a result of the implementation of the Central Pay Commission's recommendations and the Adjudicator's Award, in so far as they have been accepted by Government.

श्री बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह रेलवे के मेहतर, स्वीपर्स, कहां तक प्राविडेंट फंड, ग्रैचुइटी, पेंशन या इंश्योरेंस आदि की स्कीम का फायदा उठा रहे हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state as to how far sweepers serving in the Railway Department are taking advantage of the provident fund, gratuity, pension, insurance and other schemes?]

Shri Santhanam: They are getting the benefits of Provident Fund and gratuity on the same basis as other Class IV staff of the Railways. Permanent employees who were formerly entitled to subscribe to the State Railway Provident Fund on a voluntary basis have now been admitted to the benefit of subscribing compulsorily and temporary employees are also required to subscribe on completion of one year's service.

श्री बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि रेलवे में अगर कोई स्वीपर पढ़ा लिखा है और क्वालीफ़ाइड है तो उसको तरक्की करने के क्या प्रास-पैक्ट्स हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what are the prospects of promotion for a sweeper in the Railways Department if he is educated and qualified?

Shri Santhanam: Yes. Sir. So far as the sweepers are concerned, there are Jamadar sweepers and other grades and if they are educated they will be entitled to get admission to any other service in the Railways

Shri Raut: What steps are being taken to improve the conditions of the sweepers on the O.T.R?

Shri Santhanam: The sweepers on the O.T.R. get the same pay and allowances as the sweepers elsewhere in the country.

گیانی جی- ایس- مسافر — میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ ایک سویپر کی زیادہ سے زیادہ کیا تنخواہ ہے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** I want to know the maximum pay of a sweeper.]

Shri Santhanam: The maximum pay of ordinary sweepers is Rs. 35 and the dearness allowance is Rs. 35; they get compensatory allowance and free house or house-rent allowance.

Shri Raut: Are Government aware that several representations have been made for the past three years by sweepers of the O. T. Railway for granting Provident Fund or pension and yet no action has been taken?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know what is the percentage of the sweepers who have been provided with housing?

Shri Santhanam: They are given either housing or the housing allowance in the particular areas where they are entitled to it. I would require notice as to the actual number of sweepers who have been provided with houses.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know if Government have received representations saying that the percentage of sweepers getting houses is comparatively low compared with other classes of persons getting houses?

Shri Santhanam: It is quite possible that some representations have been made.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether the hon. Minister proposes to enquire if there is really such a cause for complaint?

Shri Santhanam: We are trying to provide housing to all employees on the basis of their essentiality and necessity.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sugar

***1241. Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 188 on the 21st November 1950, when it was stated that the total production of sugar of divided India when compared with that of Pakistan was 98·4 per cent. and state what is the total percentage and *per capita* percentage of consumption of sugar of divided India as compared with that of undivided India?

(b) Is it on the increase or decrease having regard to the populations of undivided India and divided India, in relation to the production of sugar respectively and the percentage of such increase or decrease?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Quantity of sugar consumed in divided India during the triennium ending 1949-50 was 7 per cent. more than that consumed in undivided India in the triennium ending 1946-47. Average *per capita* consumption of sugar in divided India during the said period was 29 per cent. more than that in undivided India.

(b) Sugar consumption is generally on the increase.

Central Potato Research Institute

***1242. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Potato Research Institute has been recently set up by the Government of India in Patna;

(b) if so, its purpose and functions; and

(c) whether it has started its work?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes. The Institute was started in September, 1949.

(b) The purpose of the Institute is to conduct research in respect of potatoes and coordinate the research work in progress at different centres.

Its functions include—

(i) the breeding of suitable high-yielding varieties for the various potato growing tracts in the country;

(ii) the determination of the optimum standards of potato cultivation in relation to soil and climate;

(iii) the survey, investigation, and control of the major diseases and pests, which take a heavy toll of the yield;

(iv) the elimination of heavy losses that occur in normal storage; and

(v) the building up of a seed certification organisation for the multiplication and distribution of disease-free, pure seed.

(c) Yes.

Allotment of Food Grains

***1243. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of food grains allotted to various States for the year 1951; and

(b) what is the basis for fixing the amount of the allotment?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 26.]

(b) The relative need of each State.

Food Production and Procurement

***1244. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken this year for increasing the internal food production and procurement as decided in the Food Ministers' Conference held in Bombay in December, 1950; and

(b) the steps for distribution of food grains in rural areas in deficit States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi). (a) The steps to be taken in 1951 for increasing internal food production are:

(1) Concentration of 'Grow More Food' activities in those areas where water supply is assured and other conditions will enable maximum results at minimum cost.

(2) Acceleration and intensification of the execution of irrigation schemes, land development schemes, etc. and

(3) Concentrated distribution of chemical fertilizers.

A statement showing the system of procurement adopted by each State is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 27.]

(b) Among deficit States, in Travancore-Cochin, Mysore and Bombay, the rural areas are also rationed, and in Madras the heavily deficit districts of Malabar and Nilgiries are rationed. In other areas where the rural population is not rationed Fair Price Shops are being opened and grain will be issued from these shops against cards.

Abolition of Rural Rationing

***1245. Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the names of the States where rural rationing has been abolished?

(b) Was the Government of India consulted before the States did so?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Madras and Rajasthan.

(b) Yes.

Coffee-husks for Cattle Food

***1246. Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation was carried out at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar to utilise coffee-husks as cattle-food; and

(b) if so, what are the results of such investigation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Investigations carried out show that coffee-husk is fairly rich in crude protein. The amounts of calcium and phosphorus are also normal for roughage. The chief difficulty, however, in utilising this cattle feed on a large scale lies in its lack of palatability. Experiments are in progress at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute to improve its palatability.

Grant of *Taccavi*

***1247. Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received so far for grant of *taccavi* for

purchase of tractors in Vindhya Pradesh; and

(b) how many of the applicants got the *taccavi* applied for?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 72 applications have so far been received for the grant of *taccavi* for the purchase of tractors.

(b) No taccavi has so far been sanctioned, as the type of tractor considered suitable by the Ministry's adviser in this matter has been found to be too expensive for the applicants and the question of finding a cheaper type of tractor which will be suitable is under examination.

LOCAL DELIVERY OF MAIL

*1248. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that cost of paper is not charged for in the case of local delivery post cards, whereas, in the case of envelopes of the same category, it is charged for?

(b) If so, why?

(c) Why has the facility of decreased postal rate for local delivery not been extended in the case of Book post packets and printed matter meant for local delivery?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes.

(b) A stationery charge for blank envelopes and blank postcards was levied when the concessional rates of postage for local delivery were introduced with effect from 1st April, 1950. When imprinted postcards and embossed envelopes became available for sale in Post Offices, it was decided to continue this charge for envelopes in order to recover the actual cost of manufacture of embossed envelopes. For postcards this charge was abolished in the interest of the poorer people and also because postcards, unlike envelopes, are not easily available in the market; indeed, in villages and smaller towns they are not available at all.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

MERGER OF BARODA WITH BOMBAY

*1249. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to place on the Table of the House a copy of the correspondence recently exchanged between the ex-Ruler of Baroda and the Government of India on the subject of merger of the former State of Baroda with the Bombay State?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): A copy of His Highness' letter to the President and the Government of India's reply thereto is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 28.]

RAIL LINK BETWEEN FEROZEPORE AND AMRITSAR

*1250. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what stage the scheme for connecting Ferozepur and Amritsar by direct rail on the E.P.R. has reached?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): After careful consideration, the Government of India have come to the conclusion that a direct rail link between Ferozepore and Amritsar is not necessary at present.

RAILWAY APPOINTMENTS FOR SCHEDULED CASTES

*1251. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the Railways no percentages are fixed for the Scheduled Castes in making appointments specially in the lower grade staff?

(b) Have government issued any directions in the matter?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No, it is not a fact. The general scheme of reservation of the Government of India obtains in Railways also.

(b) Yes. Directions have been issued in accordance with such scheme.

DE-CONTROL OF SUGAR

*1252. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the effects of the recent partial decontrol of sugar?

(b) What is the prevailing ex-mill price of the de-controlled sugar?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) As a result of partial de-control, Sugar prices, which ranged in the black market round about Rs. 70 per maund, fell to about Rs. 50 per maund. Permission to sell in the free market has also provided the required incentive to sugar factories to increase their production, and several factories are now paying appreciably higher cane prices with a view to drawing larger supplies in the hope of selling their excess production in the free market. Since, however, no factory has so far completed production of its basic quota and qualified for selling its excess production in the open market, the stage has not been reached when the after effects of the policy of partial decontrol can be fully assessed.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

OILSEEDS (PRODUCTION AND EXPORT)

*1253. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the quantities of India's total production and export of oilseeds?

(b) Is it a fact that the internal prices of oilseeds are shooting up due to heavy export?

(c) Are Government taking any steps to regulate the internal prices?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Two statements giving the required information for the three years ending 1949-50 are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 29.]

(b) Prices of oilseeds have generally been rising during the last few months. The rise in prices is attributable to such causes as the uneasy international situation which has increased the demand for exports, rise in internal demand, speculative activity and in the case of groundnuts to a short crop due to failure of late rains.

(c) Government have suspended the registration of overseas sales for groundnut oil and hand-picked selected groundnut for an indefinite period. The control over the prices of Vanaspati also operates as an indirect control over oilseed prices.

SUGAR ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*1254. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the findings of the Sugar Enquiry Committee?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take as a result of these findings?

(c) If the enquiry is not yet completed, when would it be completed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) to (c). The report of the Sugar Enquiry Committee has been received and is at present being examined by Government. A copy of the report together with a copy of Government's resolution thereon will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

SUGAR MILLS

*1255. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the number of sugar mills established in India since 1945?

(b) What is the capacity and the location of each of the sugar mills and what is the capital invested in each?

(c) Are there any proposals for the establishment of new sugar mills?

(d) If so, at what places, of what capacity and by what year are they expected to start working?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Nine.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 30.]

(c) Yes.

(d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House showing the number of new factories with their location and capacity as approved by the State Governments for erection. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 31.] It is not possible to say when these factories will come into production as in most cases no progress has been made so far.

FIRE IN CALCUTTA TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING

*1256. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a fire in the main Telephone Exchange building in Calcutta on the 8th January 1951;

(b) if so, the cause of the fire and results of investigation, if any;

(c) the duration of the fire and the details and value of the damage caused;

(d) the time taken by the Fire Brigade to arrive at the spot; and

(e) whether Government have made any special investigation as to the reasons why the Calcutta Telephones have become so susceptible to fire?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes.

(b) The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

(c) Six minutes. Only some wiring was burnt out. The total loss to the Department including the cost of restoring the communications is about Rs. 1,000.

(d) Twelve minutes.

(e) Investigation is in progress.

COTTON CULTIVATION

*1257. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total acreage of land under cotton cultivation in India and what is the yield per acre as compared with U.S.A. and Egypt;

(b) whether Government have taken any step to increase the yield per acre in India; and

(c) if so, what are they?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Total acreage in 1949-50 was 1,17,93,000 and yield per acre as compared with U.S.A. and Egypt as under:

India	U.S.A.	Egypt
99 lbs. lint.	284 lbs. lint.	589 lbs. lint.

(b) Yes.

(c) The action taken falls under two heads,—(i) experiments for the evolution of better yielding varieties by selection and by hybridization and for evolving better agricultural practices in regard to the cultivation of cotton, and (ii) the extension of the results of research to the cultivator. The Indian Central Cotton Committee which is the Government of India's main agency for this purpose spent about Rs. 7,70,000 in 1949-50 on various schemes with the above object. A list of these schemes now in operation is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 32.] In addition to extension work involving the maintenance of pure seed and multiplication and distribution of improved seed done through schemes financed by the Indian Central Cotton Committee, work of a similar nature is done by the field staff of the State Departments of Agriculture.

Ammonium Sulphate has also been distributed in cotton tracts and provision has been made for the improvement of irrigation facilities and for the organisation of plant protection measures.

ASSAM LINK PROJECT

*1258. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the reconstruction of Assam Link Project has proceeded;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred so far on the Project;

(c) what additional amount is proposed to be spent on the project; and

(d) when is the bridge over the Teesta river expected to be completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The reconstruction of the Assam Link has been completed except for the extension of the Teesta Bridge and the strengthening of two other bridges which are in progress.

(b) Approximate gross expenditure to end of December 1950 including the Haldibari-Siliguri conversion from Broad to Metre Gauge is Rs. 811 lakhs.

(c) Rs. 105 lakhs approximately.

(d) By about the end of February 1951.

HIGHWAY FROM KOHIMA TO MUKAKCHANG

*1259. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from the Government of Assam has been received for the construction of a highway from Kohima to Mukakchang of Naga Hills in the tribal areas of Assam for the purpose of Defence; and

(b) if so, whether it is under the consideration of Government and when will it be implemented?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

CUT IN FOOD RATION

*1260. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the action of the Bombay Government reducing the cereal ration *per capita* in that State by 25 per cent.;

(b) whether Government propose to enforce a similar cut all over India; and

(c) how many ounces of cereals are regarded by health experts as the optimum for the maintenance of health?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Reduction in the ration was made with the approval of the Government of India.

(b) It has already been done.

(c) Authorities on health consider that a balanced diet for an adult Indian may contain as much as 14 ozs. of cereals, but the amount of cereals can be adjusted in relation to the proportion of the other constituents of the diet.

AIR TRANSPORT INQUIRY COMMITTEE

*1261. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations made by the Air Transport Inquiry Committee; and

(b) whether Government propose to move for a discussion of the Report by Parliament during the current Session?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The recommendations are still under the consideration of Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

PURCHASE OF STORES AND STOCKS

*1262. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the value of purchases made on behalf of his Ministry in respect of stores and stocks during the years 1948 and 1949?

(b) What portion of the supply was available from Indian producers or manufacturers?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

AERODROME FOR MANGALORE

*1263. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an aerodrome for Mangalore is to be constructed and if so, at what cost;

(b) whether a preliminary survey of the site has been completed; and

(c) when is the work of construction likely to be taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes Sir, the cost is estimated to be Rs. 9,82,685.

(b) Yes.

(c) Preliminary work on the project is already in hand and the actual construction work will be started very soon. The project is likely to be completed in 1952-53 but the aerodrome is expected to be available for limited use during 1951-52.

AIR AGREEMENT WITH BRITAIN

*1264. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether the Government of India held any talks with Britain recently regarding a long-term air agreement?

(b) If so, what are the terms of the agreement?

(c) Is it a fact that air talks between the two countries held in July 1949 failed and if so, for what reasons?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An agreement has not yet been signed. The recent discussions between the Indian and United Kingdom Delegations resulted in a draft Agreement which the Delegations have submitted to their respective Governments for approval. When such approval has been given by both the Governments and the Agreement is signed, a copy of the Agreement will be placed on the Table of the House. For the present, I place on the Table a copy of the Press Statement which was issued on the conclusion of the talks recently. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 33.]

(c) Yes, Sir; the talks held in 1949 were not successful as agreement could not be reached in regard to the capacity which may be provided on the air services to be operated by the airlines of India and the United Kingdom between the two countries.

BUS TRAIN COLLISION

*1265. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a bus collided with a railway engine on 19th December 1950 at a place near Calcutta;

(b) if so, how many were killed and injured; and

(c) whether there was any loss of property and if so, to what extent?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. No. 54 Down Shantipur Local Passenger ran into a motor bus at a level crossing at Barrackpore station, 14 miles from Sealdah.

(b) 3 persons in the bus were killed and 13, also in the bus, were injured.

(c) The engine of the train suffered minor damages i.e., its cow catcher was slightly bent and the vacuum train pipe in front of it was broken. The bus was severely damaged

Food Subsidies.

*1265-A. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discontinued subsidies to the States for the purchase or import of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the names of such States together with the amount of subsidy that has been discontinued in each case, and the date from which the subsidy has been withdrawn;

(c) what effect this action of the Government of India has had upon the price levels of foodgrains in the States; and

(d) whether any protests or representations against the action of the Centre have been received and if so, from which States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) With the increase in the cost of imported foodgrains and the shipping freight and with the increase in imports to 3·7 million tons the continuance of the old scheme of subsidising foodgrains would have meant an unbearable burden on the Central finances. It has, therefore, been decided to restrict the Central Government's responsibility for subsidy to imported grain distributed in selected Industrial and urban areas. In the rest of the country the imported grain will be sold at cost or with such subsidy as the State Government concerned may decide to give out of its own resources. In spite of this change the Central Government will be spending rupees 21·32 crores in 1951-52 as against Rs. 20·77 crores in 1950-51.

(b) It is not possible to work these figures out until the end of the year.

(c) It is too early to say. The new scheme has not yet been brought into effect all over the country.

(d) The Governments of Bombay, Bihar, West Bengal and Travancore-Cochin have made representations against the new scheme.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 8th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Polio

*1266. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Polio cases throughout the country during the year 1950;

(b) the total number of deaths from Polio during the same period; and

(c) what special steps have been taken by Government in the Public Health Department to cope with this malady as a result of the recommendations of the Expert team sent by W.H.O.?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No exact figures regarding the total number of cases that occurred in the country are available. The cases treated in hospitals in important towns during 1950 were 961.

(b) Deaths from Poliomyelitis are not recorded separately.

(c) The recommendations of the W.H.O. Polio team are under the consideration of the Central and State Governments concerned. However, the following steps were taken to cope with this malady:

In places where polio cases occurred in the form of a mild epidemic, particularly in Bombay and Delhi, the disease was declared notifiable. Special wards were opened for isolation and treatment of patients suffering from the disease. 20 iron lungs were procured from abroad with the help of W.H.O. and U.N.I.C.E.F. and kept in four different centres to be made available in the affected areas. As regards prevention of the disease, general sanitary precautions were taken as there are no specific methods of checking the disease.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What was the approximate number of attacks and deaths from polio in the State of Delhi during the last year?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: For Delhi I can give you the figures. There were 109 cases but no deaths.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Has any specific remedy been discovered for the treatment and cure of polio?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What was the percentage of cures effected by Ayurvedic physicians?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have no information on that point.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it a fact that although iron lungs were made available to some of the hospitals in Delhi they could not be used as the staff did not know how to operate them?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir, that is not true. I have seen them working on many an occasion.

Sardar Sochet Singh: What is the age which is more susceptible to polio incidence?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Generally children from infancy to five, I believe.

Sardar B. S. Man: Have we got any special nursing homes for children effected by polio, either in the Centrally Administered areas or anywhere else in the country?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We have got in Delhi a special ward for children suffering from polio cases. Bombay and Madras both have special wards.

DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES

*1267. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Constituencies delimited in each of the Part A, Part B, and Part C States for purposes of the forthcoming general elections;

(b) how many of these Constituencies in each State are single-member and plural-member Constituencies;

(c) how many in each State are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) the maximum and minimum number of voters in any Constituency of a State?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) to (d). The information wanted by the hon. Member is not available, since constituencies have not yet been finally delimited in any of the States. The work connected with the delimitation of constituencies is still in progress and so far proposals have been settled tentatively by the Election Commission only in regard to Assam, Bombay, West Bengal, Orissa, Hyderabad, Mysore, Patiala and East Punjab States Union, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Ajmer, Bhopal, Himachal Pradesh, Kutch, Manipur, Tripura and Vindhya Pradesh. As soon as the Election Commission has submitted its final proposals to the President, the necessary Orders relating to delimitation of constituencies will be made by the President and these orders will be laid before Parliament as required under section 13 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Shri Raj Kanwar: By what date is the process of delimitation of constituencies likely to be finalised?

Dr. Ambedkar: I am unable to give a precise date.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Can an approximate date be given?

Dr. Ambedkar: No.

Shri Alagesan: May I know whether all the delimitation committees that have been appointed have submitted their reports, and, if so, whether they have been taken into consideration by the Election Commission in arriving at conclusions?

Dr. Ambedkar: I have no definite information, but I think that all the committees have not given their reports.

Shri Alagesan: May I understand from the answer of the hon. Law Minister that this House will be free to go into the question of the delimitation of constituencies?

Dr. Ambedkar: Of course. When the matter is placed before the House the House will have every opportunity to discuss whether any particular constituency has been properly delimited or not.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: Has any date been fixed by the Government for this purpose?

Dr. Ambedkar: No. How can it be when the committees themselves have not reported?

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether it is a fact that some constituencies have been demarcated for the representation of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Part C States?

Mr. Speaker: It is rather premature at this stage.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the delimitation committee of Bombay have suggested a constituency of over 750,000 voters against the provision of the Constitution?

Dr. Ambedkar: I do not think so. Even if that committee has made that recommendation it would be possible for the Parliament to reject any such provision contrary to the provisions of the Constitution.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या भिन्न भिन्न प्रान्तों में जो कमेटियां मुकर्रर की गई हैं उनकी कोई तारीख दी गई है कि उनको अपनी रिपोर्ट फ़लां फलां तारीख के पहले पेश कर देनी चाहिए ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Has any date been fixed for the submission of reports by the committees constituted in different provinces?]

Dr. Ambedkar: Well, I do not think that the Government can issue any such instructions, but so far as I know the Prime Minister did write a letter to the various committees that they should hurry up and submit their reports as quickly as possible.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that the populations of various States and the constituencies therein have been calculated in relation to the number of electors which has been enrolled by the election agency?

Dr. Ambedkar: I think that matter was dealt with by a special order issued by the President under the Constitution.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Is it not correct that all these constituencies which are reserved for the scheduled castes will be plural member constituencies?

Dr. Ambedkar: They must necessarily be, I suppose.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is a fact that the work of the delimitation committees in various States is impeded due to non-availability of authentic figures of voters?

Dr. Ambedkar: That is possible.

Shri T. N. Singh: Referring to Mr. Tyagi's question, may I know whether it is a fact that the population as settled by the President's order is in many cases and in many districts less than the actual population of 1941 census? Have Government got information on this point?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think this need be replied to.

Dr. M. C. Reddy: May I know whether it is a fact that a directive has been issued that there should be uniformly single-member constituencies throughout the country except in the case of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes constituencies?

Dr. Ambedkar: Yes, that is so.

MEDICAL UNIT TO KOREA

*1268. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and categories of Indian Army personnel included in the Medical unit sent to Korea; and

(b) the services rendered by the unit so far?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major General Himatsinhji): (a) The Field Ambulance Unit comprised 17 Officers, 9 J.C.Os. and 300 Other Ranks, all belonging to Army Medical Corps.

(b) A full official report has not yet been received owing to delay in the receipt of surface mails from Korea, but from such signals as have been received so far it appears that the unit was put on action from the very day of their landing in Korea.

Prof. S. N. Mishra *rose*—

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Sir, I would like to point out that this question was disallowed last time.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, the nature of duties that they are performing or they are expected to perform?

Major General Himatsinhji: It is a medical unit and their duty is to treat the wounded and the sick.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the amount that is spent over them per mensem?

Major General Himatsinhji: I want notice of that question.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether anyone of them has been killed so far or has died as a result of any disease?

Major General Himatsinhji: That question has been put down by an hon. Member for a later date but I would reply to it. So far we have not received any intimation of anybody being killed or wounded but three persons have been evacuated who were sick, one of whom has since returned to the unit.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the amount of money spent on medicines?

Major General Himatsinhji: I should like to have notice of that question, as information will have to be obtained about the quantity of medicines used up.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know whether they are giving physical training to Koreans and Americans?

Mr. Speaker: Physical training? She has not followed the answer.

Shrimati Velayudhan: It relates to the medical corps as reported in the Press.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: When we met in the month of November last, I put a similar question in the form of a supplementary and it was disallowed by the hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: If he shows me the proceedings, I shall be able to decide the matter.

Shri Gautam: Is this Unit working in collaboration with the Red Cross or independently?

Major General Himatsinhji: It is a Medical Unit. It works as a Field Unit and is working with the 27th Commonwealth Brigade.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO FOSTER CULTURAL RELATIONS

*1269. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the scholarships to foster cultural relations sanctioned in 1949-50 will be continued in 1951 also?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): Yes.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there has been any increase in the scholarships this year?

Dr. Ambedkar: I do not think there has been an increase.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the same countries would be benefiting this year or another set?

Dr. Ambedkar: I think this matter will be considered by Government when the occasion arises.

FOREIGN GUESTS' ENTERTAINMENTS

***1270. Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amounts spent Ministry-wise during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, each year separately, on receptions, hospitality etc., in connection with foreign guests' entertainments in India?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): A statement furnishing the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 1].

Shri Sidhva: The statement shows that the highest figure of Rs. 2,21,763 was spent by the Defence Ministry whereas the Prime Minister who is supposed to invite guests has only incurred an expenditure of Rs. 30,974. May I know why the Defence Ministry incurred this high expenditure, and what guests did they invite?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: From the statement I do not see that the Defence Ministry has spent the largest amount.

Shri Sidhva: I am sorry, Sir, it is the External Affairs Ministry.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know whether our hospitality and entertainment to our guests has always been dry or there has been a departure?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It has been dry, Sir.

RETRENCHMENT OF STAFF

***1271. Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of staff retrenched during the year 1950, in various Ministries; and

(b) what is the total amount saved from this retrenchment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) 285, excluding the number pertaining to Industry and Supply Ministry, information regarding which is being collected.

(b) Rs. 3,59,000 (approximately) during that year.

Prof. Ranga: For the whole year?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes.

Shri Sidhva: Have these retrenched staff been re-employed somewhere else, or this is the actual saving?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Much of the retrenched staff has been re-employed elsewhere where there was provision for places to fill.

Shri Sidhva: What is the actual saving that it comes to then?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is very difficult to calculate the actual saving, because the places which they filled were places for which sanctioned expenditure could be incurred.

Shri Sidhva: Out of those retrenched, how many were low paid staff and how many were gazetted officers? I want to know the low paid staff, the gazetted staff, the non-gazetted staff and the subordinate staff.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have got the information here only by two categories: gazetted and non-gazetted.

Prof Ranga: How many were gazetted officers?

Mr. Speaker: He has already stated 285.

Prof. Ranga: But how many of them were gazetted and how many non-gazetted?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The statement shows how many are gazetted and how many are non-gazetted. It also shows how many belong to the ministerial service and how many to Class IV service.

Shri Sidhva: The statement is not with us.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry. I was under the impression that the statement had been laid on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: If it is a short one, he may give the figures.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Gazetted is 33; non-gazetted (ministerial) is 160 and non-gazetted (Class IV) is 91.

Shri Tyagi: Not bad.

Dr. Parmar: What is the saving out of the gazetted staff?

लाला अचिन्तराम : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि रिट्रेंच्ड स्टाफ में डिसप्लेस्ड परसन्स कितने हैं ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of displaced persons in the retrenched staff?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : यह इसमें दर्ज नहीं है।

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This is not stated here.]

MILITARY BANDS

***1272. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state what effort has been made to make the Military Bands in India popular?

(b) Is it a fact that a special military music wing has been opened for the purpose of putting regimental band on a scientific footing?

(c) If so, what is the result?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major General Himatsinhji): (a) Military bands are played at Ceremonial parades and are also made available for public functions if service commitments permit. The bands are also made available for performances at private functions on payment of reasonable charges.

(b) Yes.

(c) 90 persons are receiving training at the Wing, comprising bandmasters, potential bandmasters, Regimental musicians, Pipers and Drummers.

Shri Sidhva: Since this is a new Wing, I want to know whether any specific centre has been opened for this purpose and if so, where has it been opened and what is the expenditure?

Major General Himatsinhji: The Military Music Training Wing has been opened at the Army Educational Corps Centre and School, Pachmarhi. Its Director is a very well qualified musician who has received training at the Royal College of Music, Kneller Hall, where all British Military bandmasters are trained. Our Military Music Wing is being set up on a similar basis and the instruction imparted is on a scientific basis.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total expenditure?

Major General Himatsinhji: Rs. 61,100.

Shri Sidhva: What is the Director's salary?

Major General Himatsinhji: I want notice of that.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही है कि पहले यह फौजी बैंड सार्वजनिक जलूसों में भी दिये जाते थे, और क्यों अब इनका सार्वजनिक जलूसों में दिया जाना बन्द कर दिया गया है?

[Seth Govind Das: Whether it is a fact that these military bands were previously lent for private functions as well and whether, now this has been stopped?]

मेजर जनरल हिम्मतसिंहजी: यह बात सही नहीं है।

[Major General Himatsinhji: This is not correct.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order: The hon. Member should not carry on talk.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if instruction in military bands is given to the N.C.C. cadets?

Major General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. We are starting formation of bands for the N.C.C. cadets. First of all, we have to get the instruments and sanction of money as well.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether only western music is played and not Eastern music?

Major General Himatsinhji: No, Sir. Steps have been taken by the Army authorities in regard to Indian music which I should like to read out to you. Attempts are being made to encourage composers to try and compose music with an Indian background suitable for playing on military bands. A competition was held last year and the Commander-in-Chief awarded six prizes for the best entries by Indian composers of suitable music to be played on military bands. These compositions are being arranged at present and will be published in the near future.

TRAINING OF INDIAN ARMY OFFICERS

***1273. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Indian Army Officers have been sent for training to various Army institutions in the Commonwealth Countries?

(b) If so, how many officers have so far been sent and to which countries of the Commonwealth?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes.

(b) I lay a statement on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Number of Army Officers and the countries to which sent

Year	U.K.	Canada	Australia
1947	43	—	—
1948	32	—	—
1949	21	—	—
1950	22	1	1

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the officers who have been sent abroad will attend some regular military colleges or will specialise in some particular branch of military science?

Major General Himatsinhji: The officers are sent mostly to the United Kingdom primarily with a view to training them as instructors, so that they can be employed as such in our training establishments on their return. As training facilities in India improve, and the requisite number of instructors become available, the necessity for sending Army officers abroad will diminish considerably.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How long would it take Government to start such military educational centres?

Major General Himatsinhji: There are nearly forty-five institutions to which we send our officers in the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries. It will be impossible to give any definite date.

Shri Tyagi: May I know, Sir, what are the various ranks of the officers who have been sent for training—do they belong to junior ranks or some of them are also staff officers?

Major General Himatsinhji: From Generals downwards to other ranks. In fact they include all ranks.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the *per capita* expenditure of each of these?

Major General Himatsinhji: I want notice of that, because it varies in each case.

Shri Gautam: Have the Defence Department made enquiries from countries other than Commonwealth countries to get these officers trained in those countries and if so have the Defence Department sent any officers to other countries?

Major General Himatsinhji: Sir, we send officers to the United States and Switzerland. Before we send officers to other countries we have to learn their language.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: Why did the Government think it necessary to send officers for training outside when trained officers are being retrenched in States like Rajasthan?

Major General Himatsinhji: The hon. gentleman is asking the question as a layman. We are sending officers for certain specific and technical training, facilities for which do not exist in our country: just as the Education Department sends civilians overseas.

Shri Raj Bahadur: On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I can anticipate the point of order of the hon. Member. Hon. Members before putting questions must study the subject.

Shri Kamath: Have any officers been sent to West Point Academy in U.S.A. for training?

Major General Himatsinhji: No, Sir. The West Point Academy is for training cadets, not officers.

Shri Kamath: Have any cadets been sent there or officers elsewhere in U.S.A.?

BROADCASTING STATIONS

*1274. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of broadcasting stations in the country with 50 K.W. medium wave broadcasting transmitters; and

(b) the number of broadcasting stations in the country with 10 K.W. medium wave broadcasting transmitters?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) One.

(b) One.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know how many transmitters will be installed in the country during the course of this year?

Shri Diwakar: There is no such new proposal.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know what is the power of the Calicut broadcasting station?

Shri Diwakar: It is 1 K.W.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if any of these stations have been supplied with automatic recording equipment?

Shri Diwakar: Usually every station has automatic recording equipment.

INTERNATIONAL COSMIC RAY COMMISSION

*1275. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a proposal to establish a high altitude cosmic ray research station in the Himalayas was discussed in Bombay by the International Cosmic Ray Commission of which India is also a Member?

(b) If so, has the Commission arrived at any decision?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been ascertained that the International Cosmic Ray Commission would welcome the establishment of such stations anywhere in the world through the financial aid of the respective governments. As regards international funds, the Commission felt that these could be better utilised in ensuring a more effective use of existing stations than in building new ones. It decided to recommend that grants should be given to assist workers in all countries to travel to the existing stations for their work, as it thought this would be more economical and result in better use of the workers' time.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the UNESCO will give some financial assistance for establishing these research stations?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I am afraid I cannot give an answer on behalf of the UNESCO.

Shri T. N. Singh: Have Government any idea as to what it will cost them if they establish a Cosmic Ray Research Station on the Himalayas?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The capital cost would be Rs. 40 lakhs and recurring expenditure Rs. 2½ lakhs per annum.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of other cosmic ray research stations which exist in this country?

Shri Sri Prakasa: None at present at any high altitude.

I. C. S. OFFICERS

*1276. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of I.C.S. officers who were in the service of the Government of India in August 1947, prior to the partition of the country;

(b) the number of Muslim I.C.S. officers prior to the partition of the country and the number out of those who opted for Pakistan; and

(c) the number of I.C.S. officers who are at present in the employment of the Government of India?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). Two Statements are laid on the Table of House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 2.].

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: How many non-Indian I.C.S. officers are in service today?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am sorry the original question did not make that classification. I want notice of that question.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Are there any superannuated officers in the I.C.S.?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Possibly, Sir, but I should ask for notice.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did all those who opted for Pakistan go away, or some of them are still in service here?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would ask for notice for that too.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know, Sir, how many of the I.C.S. officers were allowed to retire on proportionate pension before the attainment of independence: of them how many were Indians and how many were non-Indians?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am sorry, Sir, that I have information relating only to the question put. Any further figures I am unable to give now.

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

*1277. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Industrial Finance Corporation from the individuals or corporations in the State of Ajmer, and the amount of loans applied for therein, as also for which Industries; and

(b) how many of the aforesaid applications were accepted, how many were rejected and the reasons for rejection?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). No applications were received from individuals who are not eligible for financial accommodation from the Corporation.

Two applications for loans aggregating Rs. 11 lakhs were received from public limited companies, and both were rejected. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the industries concerned or the reasons for the rejection.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what is the policy of the Government —to encourage applications from those Provinces which are under-developed, or to advance loans to such Provinces which are already well-developed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I don't think the policy has any reference to the state of development of the State in which the industries are situated. It has reference to the credit-worthiness and the needs of the industries which apply for assistance.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: May I know whether the applications were from existing industries or from new industries to be started?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They were from existing industries.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: What is the net capital in hand of this Corporation at present?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I would refer the hon. Member to the reports which the Corporation publishes from year to year. The information will be found in its Second Annual Report.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it a fact that the policy of this Corporation is to advance loans for purchase of capital goods alone and not for meeting the working capital requirements of a public limited company?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I could not answer that question without notice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any industry has actually been started with the loans given to such industries?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Does the hon. Member mean whether the advance is given to a new industry?

Shri Sidhva: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No.

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES

*1281. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my supplementary question raised on starred question No. 991 on the 18th December, 1950, regarding industrial enterprises and state what is the actual investment in fully Government-owned concerns and in partly Government-owned concerns?

(b) Are Government losing in wholly Government owned concerns or making profits?

(c) Have Government lost or made profits, taking the investment in such concerns as a whole, till the last accounting year?

(d) What is the total amount they lost or earned?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The total investment made by the Government of India in fully owned industrial concerns during the period August 1947--August, 1950, is Rs. 2,740 lakhs and in partly Government owned concerns Rs. 22 lakhs.

(b) to (d). Many of the concerns are yet in the stage of construction and the question of profit and loss does not arise in their case at this stage. The only important concern which has been in production for some time is the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd; and this made a small profit of Rs. 14·5 lakhs and Rs. 5·8 lakhs in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 respectively.

Shri Gautam: What are the causes for this reduction of profits in the Hindustan Aircraft Factory?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Well, it is a new concern. It has just started making profits. So it is not a question of reduction of profits as between two years. It depends on the amount of work that they undertake in a particular year.

Shri Gautam: If I am not mistaken, the figures given by the hon. Minister were Rs. 14 lakhs and odd in the first year and Rs. 5 lakhs and odd in the following year. My question was what are the causes for this reduction in the profits?

Mr. Speaker: The question is clear. The answer also is clear—the factory is in the making they manufacture various things which they sell and the sales might exceed in a particular year—but I need not explain it.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that some of the concerns which were taken over by the Government have been handed back to the previous owners—especially on the Railway side?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think the Railway Minister might be able to answer the question. I do not know.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether the Defence industries also are included in this?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No. Defence industries are not included in this, except that the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., has now been transferred to

the Ministry of Defence. I mean that the ordnance factories are not included in this.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Is it a fact that the reduction in the profits of the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd is due to some extent to the reduction in the repair and overhauling charges for the aircraft which come for repairs to the factory?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I am not in a position to answer that question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Can we have a list of the fully government-owned concerns?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The following are fully government-owned:

Government Housing Factory.
Indian Telephone industries.
Hydrogen Factory, Agra.
Hindustan Aircraft Limited.
Fertilizer Projects, Sindri.
Penicillin Factory.
Mathematical Instruments Office.
Indian Rare Earths Limited.
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इन फ़ैक्टरियों में जो कि गवर्नमेंट की हैं और जो अभी बन रही हैं, इनमें से कितनी फ़ैक्टरियां निकट भविष्य में चलने वाली हैं और कितनी में अभी देर लगेगी?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Out of these Government factories and those which are still under construction, how many of them are working and how many will take time to start?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : गवर्नमेंट हाउसिंग फ़ैक्टरी अब निकट भविष्य में किस ओर चलेगी या नहीं चलेगी यह तो अभी निश्चित नहीं है। वह चलेगी, लेकिन किस तौर पर चलेगी यह अभी निश्चित नहीं हुआ है। इंडियन टेलीफोन इंडस्ट्री अभी चल रही है। हायड्रोजन फ़ैक्टरी, हिन्दुस्तान एयरक्राफ्ट लिमिटेड और फ़र्टीलाइज़र प्रोजेक्ट, ये निकट भविष्य में चलेंगे ऐसी उम्मीद है। पैनीसिलीन फ़ैक्टरी में कुछ विलम्ब लगेगा और मैथेमैटिकल इंस्ट्रूमेंट्स फैक्टरी तो अरसे से चल रही है। इंडियन रेयर अर्थ्स लिमिटेड, आशा है, पांच छ: महीने में काम शुरु करेगी और चितरंजन लोकोमोटिव वर्कस की क्या हालत है, यह अभी चलने वाली है या कुछ देर लगेगी यह मालूम नहीं है।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It has not been yet decided what will be the scope of activities of the Government Housing Factory in the near future. It will work, but it has not been decided as to what it will manufacture. The Indian Telephone Industries are working. It is hoped that the Hydrogen Factory, the Hindustan Aircraft Limited and the Fertilizer Projects will start working in the near future. The Pencillin Factory will take some time. The Mathematical Instruments Factory is already working since a long time. The Indian Rare Earths Limited will start working within five or six months. Nothing is known as to whether the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works will start working now or it will also take some time.]

DAMODAR VALLEY PROJECT (FINANCIAL SET UP)

*1282. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial set up of the Damodar Valley Project has been recently discussed at a Conference of the participating States Governments called by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, what was the nature and scope of discussions and the decisions taken?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes Sir. The last meeting of the participating governments, was held on December 27, 1950 and will be continued on March 3, 1951.

(b) The discussions at the last meeting were of a general nature, and though no decisions could be taken at the December meeting, we were able to cover a good deal of ground and hope to take helpful decisions at the coming meeting in March.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether in that Conference the hon. the Finance Minister expressed great anxiety and concern over the way the finances of the Corporation are being handled?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The hon the Finance Minister was present at that Conference and did give his opinions on the various problems discussed.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether it is a fact that the representatives of the Bengal Government did not

attend this Conference and if so, the reason for it?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The fact is that they were not present at the Conference. I understand the Chief Minister who wanted to be present was engaged otherwise and therefore he could not come.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I know whether he has perused the annual report of the Corporation and studied the observations of the Auditor at the end of that report?

Shri Sri Prakasa: A copy of the report was given to me only a week back and I have certainly studied with great care the remarks of the Auditor.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I know whether the Auditor has remarked that according to the present practice of the Corporation contracts are given by negotiation, without competitive tenders being called for; there is no approved Schedule of Rates for the execution of works at the various work sites; open tenders are not called for purchases made through the Central Purchasing Organization?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I have read the words as quoted by the hon. Member. I may state for the information of the House that at the Damodar Valley Corporation Conference held on 9th May 1949 a convention was established by which the Damodar Valley Corporation would send to the Government of India before conclusion any contract or agreement which the Corporation propose to enter into other than contracts or agreements arising as a result of a public call for tenders or quotations. The Damodar Valley Corporation also come to Government in cases of contracts of which the value is not definitely ascertainable at the time of the placing of the contract or the signing of the agreement. We have no information as to whether the Corporation have an approved Schedule of Rates for the execution of their works.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is it also a fact that the Auditor has pointed out that there is very little relation between the original estimates and revised estimates, as for instance, the Bokaro thermal station and the transmission line: as against the original estimate of Rs. 10 crores for the scheme the revised estimate is Rs. 20·62 crores?

Shri Sri Prakasa: At the last meeting these matters were brought to the notice of all the participating Governments and all the estimates are being revised at the present moment.

Shri Shiva Rao: Has the Auditor expressed the opinion that in view of these variations some of the projects might prove un-economical and may have to be dropped?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That is so, Sir, and he has also added that other projects in the valley might be found more paying and might have to be taken up.

Shri Shiva Rao: In view of the disclosures made by the Auditor, some of them of a grave and disquieting character, will the hon. Minister give an assurance to this House that before he comes forward for sanction of capital expenditure in the forthcoming Budget, he will take due note of the remarks of the Auditor?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I can give that assurance readily. I am studying the report with the greatest care and I hope that any difficulties that are being experienced by the Corporation and also by the hon. Member will be removed.

Prof. Ranga: May I know in spite of the fact that the Act gives the power to Government to give directions whenever they found it necessary and in spite of all these defects, Government till now have not chosen to give even one directive to the Damodar Valley Authority.

Shri Sri Prakasa: That is not a fact. Government are always giving directives and also calling for reports.

Prof. Ranga: I am not having in my mind the usual directives that Government give to this or that authority. I have in my mind the statutory directive that Government are empowered to give when they feel necessary. I wanted to know whether Government have given in terms of that statute any directive at all to the Damodar Valley Authority?

Shri Sri Prakasa: So far as my information goes, Sir, directives that have been given so far have been of an informal nature and the directives such as are envisaged by the hon. Member have not been given.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister that when a suggestion was made by the Council of Advisers that proceedings of the meeting of the Board might be sent to the three Governments for information from time to time, they refused to send copies of the proceedings on the ground that they were an autonomous body?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sri Prakasa: I am not aware of those particulars.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know, Sir, whether in the Conference the Finance Minister raised the question of the repayment of loans made to the Damodar Valley Corporation by the different Governments. If so, will the matter be pursued at the next Conference?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I pointed out that a proper project report should be submitted to Government before further loans for the remaining part of the works for this year or next year are given and the idea was to ensure that loans for obviously uneconomic projects are not advanced unless there is some kind of assurance that they would have the capacity to service these loans over whatever period might be agreed upon between the Central Government and the Bengal Government, who in their turn advance money to the Corporation.

Shri Tyagi: Has the fact come to the notice of Government that least heed was paid to the advice of the Financial Adviser who was appointed by Government according to law?

Shri Sri Prakasa: According to the report of the Corporation itself, they pay every heed to the advice of the Financial Adviser, but I may add, Sir, that I myself am not satisfied with the position of the Adviser because he happens to be an employee of the Corporation itself, though he has been nominated by us. I am proposing to look very closely into the position and see if his status cannot be changed, so that his advice can be more effective.

Shri B. Das: In view of the differences between the Damodar Valley Authority and the Government of India all along, will the hon. Minister take steps to amend the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, so that the Government of India may exercise proper financial and administrative control?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid this is a suggestion for action.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Having regard to the fact that the estimate of thermal stations has doubled, does the Government consider it economic or uneconomic?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The estimated costs have certainly gone up and the whole position will have to be examined anew.

Shri Gautam: Is it a fact that the Damodar Valley Corporation has been buying goods in the U.S.A. without the co-operation of our Purchasing Mission in U.S.A. and have appointed their own agency? If so, why?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The purchasing agency is the Directorate General in the I. and S. Ministry here and the Damodar Valley people complained that they were not able to get the goods in time through them. I am looking into this matter and we are hoping that some proper arrangements will be made so that the goods may be ordered through the Director-General here and they may be supplied in time.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the fact that the irrigation works have been started, may I know why the plans have not yet been prepared for these irrigation works and why thermal plant has actually been completed?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I fear I am not in a position yet to give a full answer to the question.

Retrenchment in Madhya Bharat State Forces

*1283. **Shri Ghule:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the number of persons retrenched from the Madhya Bharat State Forces since the 1st of April, 1950?

Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the answer given by me in Parliament to part (c) of Starred Question No. 788 on the 8th December 1950, on the policy regarding merger and retrenchment of personnel of the Forces of the former Indian States. The retrenchment effected in the Madhya Bharat State Forces is a part of the general scheme. It will be appreciated that it is not in the public interest to disclose the numbers retrenched from time to time, thereby revealing present strengths.

Shri Ghule: May I know what was the previous strength out of which the retrenchment was made on 1st April, 1950.

Major-General Himatsinhji: The strength of the Madhya Bharat State Forces was 8,796 on 1st April, 1950.

Shri Ghule: May I know, Sir, whether any separate provision has been made to re-absorb these retrenched persons in service?

Major-General Himatsinhji: This question has been put to me by many hon. Members during the last few days. Therefore, I should like to read out from my Docket, as it is a question of policy:

"The problem of resettlement and rehabilitation of demobilized personnel is a general one affecting all the States because we are not only reducing the

State Forces but also other units of the Indian Army. Government have agreed that financial contribution will be made towards implementation of suitable schemes of resettlement which are being drawn up So far as State Forces are concerned, the Governments of Part B States have been requested to formulate schemes for the resettlement and rehabilitation of demobilized personnel as they have better knowledge of local problems and the nature of resettlement required. The precise nature of assistance from the Centre will depend upon the schemes to be submitted by the State Governments."

Shri Jainarain Vyas: May I know whether all these officers and men were removed from service for reasons of health?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I can repeat the same answer again that he is asking the question as a layman.

Prof. Ranga: May I draw your attention to the fact, Sir, that all of us are supposed to be laymen and not experts. Experts are not supposed to be officers of States. They are laymen. It is not right on the part of any Minister to have a fling at any of us by calling us laymen. I take very strong exception to that. I request you to protect us also.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I say, Sir, I do not understand the hon. Member's resentment and outburst on this occasion. The question asked was a question which has been answered. He said that. To call one a layman is not an insult. I protest against this protest.

Prof. Ranga: My personal explanation is only this. We do not mind being called laymen. The question that we put is to be treated as a layman's question and it deserves a proper answer, what is the implication of the answer given? I am extremely sorry to notice how the Prime Minister has taken objection to my protest because I think the Prime Minister has to defend the dignity of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member need not get into a passion over this.

Prof. Ranga: The Prime Minister gets into a passion unnecessarily.

Mr. Speaker: Even when the Deputy Minister replied that he was a layman, my own reaction was that he never intended a fling.

Prof. Ranga: He repeats it again.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To say that one is a layman is not an insult.

Prof. Ranga: Kindly read his answer again.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do think this is a serious matter that the hon. Member has raised. I take the strongest objection to what he has said. The hon. Member has accused one of the Deputy Ministers of Government for being discourteous to the House. I am positive that he was not discourteous. The question put to him was not a proper question: "Is this being done for reasons of health: are the officers and men removed for reasons of health?" I put it to the House whether that was a sarcastic question or not. The answer had been given that we wanted to take certain steps with regard to retrenchment for other reasons. Then this question is put. That is a sarcastic question. It is not a straight question. If the Deputy Minister says completely without any malice or anything that that was not a proper question, the only conclusion one can draw is that he is totally ignorant of all that is taking place.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need carry this matter any further. I myself carried the impression that that question was sarcastic and disallowed that question. I have no doubt in my mind. Whatever it may be, the question was put in a manner which was capable of the construction that that was a matter of joke that the forces were being retrenched on account of bad health or some such thing. That was not a proper question to be put.

Shri Gautam: The remark was repeated.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need carry the point further.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: On a point of personal explanation, Sir, my own information is that most of these officers and men have been retrenched on account of health reasons. I wanted to know what percentage was on account of health and what percentage on account of other reasons. I think I was right in putting this question. There was no sarcasm in it.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Shri Joachim Alva: With your permission, one word, Sir. I want to add that the hon. Deputy Minister has been a very competent man and has been very courteous to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Next question, Mr. Velayudhan. (*The hon. Member did not rise in his seat.*)

Next question, Mr. Dwivedi.

Shri R. Velayudhan: I want to ask my question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, it was passed over.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE AT NOWGONG

***1285. Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for closing down the Child Welfare Centre at Nowgong in Vindhya Pradesh;

(b) what was the total monthly expense in this connection;

(c) whether any such centres are working or are likely to be opened anywhere in Vindhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what are those places?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The Child Welfare Centre at Nowgong was closed temporarily for want of a trained Health Worker.

(b) Rs. 340/- per month.

(c) and (d). Two Centres—one at Rewa and another at Nowgong—are working since November, 1950, and it is proposed to open two more Centres at Panna and Satna as soon as services of more qualified health workers are secured.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know in whose hands the building in Nowgong in which the Child Welfare Centre was held, is now?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not answer that. I take it, it is in the hands of the Government authorities there.

Shri Dwivedi: What was the total quantity of milk supplied every month to the children at Nowgong?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I cannot give that information.

Shri Sidhva: What has become of question No. 1284, Sir? It was not put.

Mr. Speaker: No. The hon. Member was called thrice. He was engaged either in enjoying what was going on in the House or he was not attentive. After having called him thrice, I called the next question. Members have got to be attentive when their questions are called.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION IN VINDHYA PRADESH

***1286. Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state what is the basis of selection of personnel for the Board of Education for junior High School Examination in Vindhya Pradesh?

(b) Is the constitution of the Board comparable with similar Boards in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Bharat or Rajasthan?

(c) Will Government lay on the Table of the House a copy of the constitution of the Vindhya Pradesh Education Board, and a list of the names of the members?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar:) (a) Basis of selection of Personnel for the Board of Education for Junior High School Examination in Vindhya Pradesh is as follows:

(i) 6 members nominated by the Chief Commissioner;

(ii) 3 members nominated by the Director of Education;

(iii) one member nominated by the Director of Medical and Health Services;

(iv) one member nominated by the Vindhya Pradesh Sahitya Sammelan; and

(v) the rest elected by Headmasters and teachers of High and Middle Schools.

(b) A comparative statement of the Constitution of Vindhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh Boards is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 4.]

No information is available about the Constitution of the Education Boards in Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan.

(c) A copy of the Constitution together with a list of the names of the members is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 3.]

Shri Dwivedi: Is it not a fact that the Board of Education in Vindhya Pradesh is dominated by Government employees only?

Dr. Ambedkar: I think that would be evident from the examination of the constitution to which I have referred.

Shri Dwivedi: Would it not be possible to have other educationists and public men represented there?

Dr. Ambedkar: It is possible; I have no doubt that if representation is made in proper quarters, steps will be taken to bring about the result which my hon. friend has in mind.

RE-GROUPING OF MINISTRIES

***1287. Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of Government employees

affected by retrenchment, transfers, or re-organisation of scales of pays and grades separately, as a result of re-grouping of the Ministries of Commerce, Industry and Supply and Works, Mines and Power?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): I have already mentioned the position in this regard in reply to Starred Question No. 1159 by Shri Balmiki on 5th February 1951.

The question of reorganisation of scales of pays and grades has not been considered in connection with the recent regrouping of Ministries. As regards retrenchment, transfers, etc., the required information is being analysed and will be laid on the Table in due course.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if any I.C.S. officer has been retrenched in this connection?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have referred to Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, etc. As for the attack particularly on the class known as I.C.S. I will have to look into the papers.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the saving likely to be effected on account of this?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Even that, I have answered already. Until everything is settled, we cannot calculate the saving.

Shri Dwivedi: Do Government propose to re-group other Ministries also?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That also I have answered on the previous question.

Mr. Speaker: The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Cinchona Plantations (Facilities)

***1278. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the facilities for expansion in India of Cinchona plantations?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): According to a survey made in 1939, the total available area suitable for cinchona cultivation was estimated at 38,000 acres of which 6,000 acres were already under cultivation in Madras and Bengal. The Governments of these States have since extended their plantations. The Madras Government have at present about 9,300 acres under cinchona cultivation. Information is not available regarding the present area under cultivation in Bengal. The prevailing depression in the quinine market caused by effective competition from the synthetic anti-malarials, however, has put a stop to all schemes of expansion and improvement.

Staff Training School, A.I.R., New Delhi

***1279. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) how many people were given training in the Staff Training School, All-India Radio, New Delhi, during 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on this school during the same period?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) 79 in 1949-50 and 26 up to date in 1950-51.

(b) Rs. 79,674 in 1949-50 and Rs. 62,000 as anticipated for 1950-51.

Retrenchment of Class IV Servants

***1280. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many Class IV Government Servants have been retrenched during 1949-50 and 1950-51 (up to date), in the various Ministries of the Government of India?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Insurance Companies

***1288. Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many Insurance Companies have wound up their business or have gone into liquidation since 1st January, 1945?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The number of Insurance Companies registered under the Insurance Act, 1938, which have wound up their business or have gone into liquidation since 1st January, 1945 is Nine.

Indian Companies Act

***1289. Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether Government propose to bring a Bill to amend the Indian Companies Act? If so, when?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Legislation to amend the Indian Companies Act will be considered on receipt of the report of the Committee which has been recently set up to consider the amendment of the Act. In this connection attention is invited to the answer to Question No. 1176 asked on the 5th February, 1951.

Power Plants

***1290. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Power Plants installed in the country by the English Electric Group of Companies, the places where they are located, and the amount of the power to be generated by them separately;

(b) the names of the Managing authorities; and

(c) the purpose for which the plants have been installed?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) There is no group called the English Electric Group of companies known to us but there are 35 Electric companies whose managing agencies are predominently foreign. Two statements showing the locations of the Power Plants and the amount of power generated and/or purchased by each plant individually in million KW. belonging to these companies, are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 5.]

(b) A list giving the names of the Managing Agents, is also laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 6.]

(c) To supply electricity to the public.

Influenza

***1291. Shri Raj Kanwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken by the Government of India to prevent the spread into Indian territory of the influenza epidemic, which for some time past, has been sweeping Europe?

(b) If so, what are they?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). There have been reports of outbreak of clinically mild influenza epidemics in Hawaii, Japan, Canada, the United States and Europe. From the Press Release issued by the W.H.O. Regional Office in New Delhi, on the 29th January, 1951, it is gathered that the disease is not severe and complications have been rare and mortality low. There is no specific mention in the Press Release of any special danger to India. The Administrative Medical Officers of the State have been warned to keep a close watch over any signs of outbreak of influenza in the country. I may, however, add that prevention of the spread of a disease like influenza is a difficult matter. No epidemics have been reported so far.

Indian Scientists on Deputation

***1292. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have received any requests from foreign Governments for sending Indian Scientists on deputation for specific purposes?

(b) If so, which are the countries which have made such requests?

(c) What is the number of Indian Scientists who have been sent on deputation to foreign Governments?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Only one such request was received from the Government of Ceylon in July 1949.

(c) One.

Broadcasting Station, Jullunder

***1293. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the power of the Broadcasting Station at Jullunder (Punjab) (I); and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the date by which the said decision is likely to be implemented?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Eight Year Plan for Development of Broadcasting envisages a higher power medium wave transmitter of 10/20 k.w. at Jullundur, but its installation will be undertaken when funds become available.

(b) Does not arise.

Daily and Travelling Allowances to Members of Parliament

***1294. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 106 asked on 17th November, 1950 and state:

(a) whether the question of payment of daily allowances at a uniform rate to Members of Parliament serving on Committees, whether Parliamentary or Governmental, has been examined;

(b) if so, whether a decision has been reached; and

(c) what allowances will be paid to Members of Parliament in such circumstances in future?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes. It has been decided that in respect of Governmental Committees, Daily allowance will be regulated in accordance with Finance Ministry's Memorandum No. F. 10(2)-Est. II/47, dated the 17th October 1947 a copy of which has been placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 7.]

The maximum rate of daily allowance admissible under this Memorandum is Rs. 20 per day.

(c) In respect of Parliamentary Committees the rules governing the allowances of Members of Parliament continue to apply. Under these rules, a daily allowance of Rs. 40 per day is ordinarily admissible.

BROADCASTING FACILITIES

*1295. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of allowing broadcasting facilities to all the parties contesting the ensuing General Elections; and

(b) if so, the decision that has been reached?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Biswakar): (a) The question will be considered when it arises.

(b) Does not arise.

INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

*1296. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects discussed at the International Engineering Conference held recently in New Delhi; and

(b) how many delegates attended this Conference and what were the results of the conference?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The following three International Conferences were held recently in New Delhi:

(1) Sectional meeting of the World Power Conference;

(2) Fourth Congress on Large Dams;

(3) First Congress on Irrigation and Drainages.

Three pamphlets giving in detail the subjects discussed at these conferences, are laid on the Table of the House. [Copies placed in the Library, *See* No. P-136/51.]

Briefly they were:

(1) *World Power Conference:*

(i) Utilisation of electricity in agriculture; and

(ii) Co-ordination of the development of industries and the development of power resources.

(2) *Fourth Congress on Large Dams:*

(i) Design and construction of Earth Dams and Rockfill Dams with their Core Walls and Diaphragms.

(ii) Method for determining the maximum flood discharge that may be expected at a Dam and for which it should be designed. Selection of type, capacity, and general arrangement of temporary or permanent outlets and spillways and determination of their capacities.

(iii) Concrete for large Dams.

(iv) Sedimentation in reservoirs and related problems.

(3) *First Congress on Irrigation and Drainages:*

(i) National Review of Irrigation, Development and Practice.

(ii) Present Day Problems in Irrigation and Drainage.

In all 186 technical papers were discussed at these conferences, out of which 40 were contributed by India.

(b) 797 delegates attended the conferences, of these 309 came from abroad. The results of the conferences will be published in their respective proceedings which will be available some time later. These will be placed in the library of the House when received. The conclusions reached at the International Commission on Large Dams and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainages are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 8].

INFLUENZA

*1298. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Health Organisation has issued a warning regarding the possible outbreak of influenza of the pernicious type in an epidemic form; and

(b) if so, whether the warning relates to India also?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1291 today.

ARREARS IN NAGPUR HIGH COURT

*1299. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact, that the Government of Madhya Pradesh represented to the Central Government about the existence of huge arrears of cases in the Nagpur High Court and endorsed the demand of that Court that the number of Judges be increased from 8 to 10?

(b) Is it a fact that the Madhya Pradesh Government have accepted the financial obligation of such an addition?

(c) Is it a fact that this demand was made several months ago and has been repeated in view of the increasing arrears of cases and new petitions under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution?

(d) If so, what action have Government taken in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) On the ground of heavy arrears, the Madhya Pradesh Government supported the request of the High Court for an additional two Judges.

(b) The expenditure in respect of the salaries and allowances of Judges of a High Court is, under the Constitution, charged on the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(c) Yes.

(d) The President is required, under article 216 of the Constitution, to fix the maximum number of Judges in relation to each High Court. The proposals of State Governments have now been received, the last reply having been received only some two weeks ago, and the issue of an omnibus Order is under consideration. Government have also to take into account, in this connection, the recommendations of the High Court Arrears Committee. The replies from all State Governments on the report of this Committee have not yet been received.

PROTECTION OF DIBRUGARH

*1300. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what assistance, if any, has been given by the Government of India for the protection of the town of Dibrugarh from erosion?

(b) Has the pecuniary assistance of a sum of Forty lakhs of rupees applied for by the State of Assam been granted by the Government?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Some assistance has been provided in the form of the services of geologists and engineers of the Central Government for advice on the measures necessary for the protection of the town No other assistance has been granted so far.

(b) No. The matter is under correspondence with the State Government who have been asked to furnish the details of the plan.

OIL FIELD AND WORKS, DIGBOI

*1301. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) to whom the Oil-Field and Works in Digboi in Assam belong; and

(b) if to a private company, what is the relation between the Government of Assam and the Company?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) It is understood that the Oil-Field in Digboi belongs to the Government of Assam; and the Works on the oil field belong to Messrs. Assam Oil Company, who hold a lease for the area.

(b) The relation between the Government of Assam and the Assam Oil Company is that of lessor and lessee respectively under the terms of the Agreement executed between them.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 9th February, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REHABILITATION PLAN

*1362. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Planning Commission have drawn up or considered or propose to consider any scientific or systematic Plan of Rehabilitation of displaced persons?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Planning Commission has been in close touch with the Ministry of Rehabilitation regarding the progress of rehabilitation generally and, in particular, the immediate problems of rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan which the Ministry is handling. The Commission has received the development plans of State Governments and is at present working out its proposals, so that the development plans make the maximum contribution to the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Will a proper development plan be formulated by the Planning Commission?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: For what?

Shri Raj Kanwar: For the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. The Planning Commission only wishes to bring its own planning scheme, in so far as possible, into line with the plans for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. That is, it attempts to co-ordinate the activities of the Rehabilitation Ministry with its own planning.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. the Prime Minister stated in his answer that there is a particular plan for the rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees. May I know what is the plan for the rehabilitation of the East Bengal refugees?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am merely informing the House that the Planning Commission is discussing its own plans for development with the Rehabilitation Ministry so as to give the largest scope for the employment of displaced persons.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any housing scheme for the East Bengal refugees?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is not the Planning Commission's business; it is the Rehabilitation Ministry's business.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the schemes that have been taken up by the Rehabilitation Ministry come up for scrutiny before the Planning Commission?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not give a straight answer to that; perhaps my hon. colleague might. Such schemes as relate to development probably do, not other schemes. Perhaps my hon. colleague will throw light on it.

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): There are two parts of it. The first is the question of immediate rehabilitation. Those schemes do not go before the Planning Commission. But we are now having more mature and, what I might call, medium-range schemes. About those schemes we are consulting the Planning Commission.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether the hon. the Prime Minister will kindly inform the House as to whether any of the schemes or plans of the Planning Commission have been accepted by the Government and brought into action and whether the Planning Commission have made any recommendations—complete plans—with regard to rehabilitation or other schemes?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No proposals or plans as such of the Planning Commission have been placed before the Government yet. They have been considered by individual members of Government who are sometimes invited to the Planning Commission to discuss matters. But the final proposals have not been framed by the Planning Commission itself yet.

Shri Tyagi: Have the Government asked the Planning Commission to plan in respect of certain programmes and have they asked them to give them something complete?

Mr. Speaker: It is going beyond the scope of the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the development of the Andamans included in the plans for the rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All I can say is that this matter was considered by the Planning Commission and it has also been considered by the Rehabilitation Ministry. I do not know at what stage it is.

INDO-PAKISTAN TRADE AGREEMENT OF 1950

***1303. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transactions under the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement of 1950 have been completed;

(b) whether the accounts on both sides have been balanced;

(c) if not, which side has the adverse balance and to what extent; and

(d) what were the articles exchanged and what was the value of each of these articles?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The accounts have not yet been finalised.

(d) A statement giving the requisite information up to the 30th September 1950, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 9.]

Further information is being collected.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any idea of extending the Pakistan Trade Pact?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, may I answer it? We have always been prepared and anxious to have trade relations where possible. We have now suggested to the Pakistan Government to have talks on this subject. That is the present position. I might add that some preliminary exchanges in order to have future talks are going to take place in the course of the next few days.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how much textile goods were exported to Pakistan?

Shri Karmarkar: Indian textile goods yet to be exported to Pakistan is about 14,351 bales of the value of Rs. 82 lakhs. The quantity agreed to be exported will be found in the Agreement.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was it done according to the recommendation of the Central Cotton Advisory Board?

Shri Karmarkar: Is the hon. Member referring to the Agreement or to the export?

Shri A. C. Guha: To the export.

Shri Karmarkar: The export was made in accordance with the Agreement arrived at with Pakistan, and the export to be made is also a balance arising out of that Agreement.

Shri A. C. Guha: Did the Central Cotton Advisory Board approve of the quantity exported?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall require notice of that question.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether the Government is aware that some of the perishable food articles like pulses and gram which were purchased and paid for by Indian merchants have been held up in transit?

Shri Karmarkar: There is a system by which perishable articles and certain other articles are permitted to be exported freely without licensing or payment restrictions. They include dry fish, betel leaves, indigenous sewing machines, fresh fruits and fresh vegetables including onions, etc.

Shri Rudrappa: I want to know whether pulses and gram which were purchased and paid for by Indian merchants were held up during transit and have not been released.

Shri Karmarkar: I would like to find it out and inform the hon. Member.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the amount of cotton received from Pakistan?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of it.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that a high Government official has recently gone from India to Pakistan to discuss trade matters?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just stated that the officials have gone there, not to discuss trade matters, but preliminaries to a future discussion of trade matters.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether Pakistan has made some gesture for opening negotiations for exchange of commodities on a barter basis?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what is called a 'gesture'. But we correspond frequently and they expressed their willingness and desire to do so. There is no particular special gesture except this correspondence, which is continually going on.

Shri Tyagi: Has she made any overtures?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. Ranga: The hon. the Deputy Minister just now stated that we have yet to export 14,351 bales of textile goods. I want to know whether it includes the export of yarn also, in view of the recent ban placed on the export of yarn. I would like him also to say what steps they are taking to push up our exports of hand-woven goods in preference to mill cloth.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The statement has been laid on the Table from which hon. Members will know that a certain Agreement was arrived at. But it was not fully implemented. Although certain goods were to be imported and exported, it was not given effect to fully by either side. 1950 is now over. So we are now in the process of approaching them for a new Agreement. Therefore any discussion of that Trade Agreement is profitless.

Prof. Ranga: What about the export of yarn?

Shri Mahtab: Export of yarn has been stopped.

Prof. Ranga: And hand-woven goods?

Shri Mahtab: Everything is stopped. There is no trade relation between India and Pakistan today.

Shri A. C. Guha: Am I to understand that this 'probable negotiations' with Pakistan will be independent of the solution of the Exchange question on barter basis or will it be contingent upon the settlement of the Exchange ratio question?

Shri Mahtab: Sir, the two questions are vitally connected.

CEMENT

***1304. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cement factories in India with total production capacity in the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the total quantity produced in those years;

(c) how much has been imported during those years;

(d) how much of the total available quantity was ear-marked for Government departments and how much was given to the public; and

(e) how is the latter quantity distributed among different States?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (e). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 10.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there an All India Marketing Organization for marketing of cement?

Shri Mahtab: Up till now the whole country was divided into six zones exactly not on the lines of the administrative boundaries of the States and accordingly a marketing arrangement was made and that is now going on.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question was whether there is any All India Marketing Organization now so that there could be equal prices in all the States?

Shri Mahtab: There is no All India Marketing Organization now. We are discussing with the industry to set up such an organisation, as suggested, so that the prices will be more or less on the same level.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any case come to the notice of the Government that a manufacturer of cement in India has also been an importer of foreign cements and there has been some manipulation in prices due to that?

Shri Mahtab: May be because cement for some time was on O. G. L. Cement manufacturers might have been importers but that does not affect the position of price.

Shri Tyagi: May I know as to what has happened to the hope which the hon. Minister has raised in one of his speeches in which he said that the cement was going to be decontrolled?

Shri Mahtab: It was really not a speech but some of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce of Madras asked me a question whether cement would be decontrolled or not. To that I said that cement would be decontrolled provided—that was a sort of retort—the South Indian factories do not object to it. As a matter of fact that is under consideration, and if cement is decontrolled, our fear is that

the South Indian factories will suffer. The whole thing is under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: May I know what is the stock of cement at present and whether it is more than production?

Shri Mahtab: The statement gives the information. When the cement was on O. G. L. as much as 371,760 tons of cement were imported. That improved the position to such an extent that there is enough stock now and cement price is not subjected to variation on account of international conditions.

Shri M. C. Shah: May I ask if the Government has received a memorandum from the A.I.C.A. about the rapid rise in production of cement and at the same time suggesting decontrol?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, that is a fact.

Shri Alagesan: May we know how the South Indian factories will suffer and what is the extent of loss that will be suffered by the South Indian factories?

Shri Mahtab: That is a question of argument. Cement decontrol is now under consideration and when we come to a decision the hon. Member will be perfectly entitled to know the reason and whether all the factories will suffer or not.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is it a fact that 3,500 tons of cement were allowed to deteriorate by the authorities of the Damodar Valley Corporation? If so, what is the amount of the loss?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that arises. We had better go to the next question.

IRON AND STEEL MATERIALS

*1305. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron and steel materials worth about Rs. 8 crores are locked up with the Iron and Steel Controller;

(b) if so, the reasons for it; and

(c) what action has been taken on the recommendation of the Estimates Committee for their immediate disposal?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Book value of stocks of iron and steel awaiting disposal on 1st January, 1951 amounted to Rs. 94 lakhs approximately.

(c) Bulk of iron and steel items has already been disposed of and the balance (Rs. 94 lakhs book value approximately) does not represent any serious problem. This entire stock is expected to be cleared by the end of March next.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: It seems from the reply that the release was made after the report of the Estimates Committee. Was no action taken previous to the report of the Estimates Committee?

Shri Gadgil: I have to say with regret that the position was not sufficiently and properly understood by hon. Members of the Estimates Committee. The position is this, that the book value of the thing amounted to Rs. 8 crores. What happens is that articles as enumerated here are allocated by the Steel Controller along with fresh production to registered stockists. The registered stockists are then asked to pay to the Account branch and after the payment is received, then it is progressed and release order is issued as against that. Therefore there is always a time-lag between allocation and delivery. The position is all that has been disposed of. What remains to be disposed of is, as I stated in the reply, namely, the goods the book value of which is approximately Rs. 94 lakhs.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: For what period was the stock locked up?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot say for what period the stock was locked up, but so far as the goods amounting to Rs. 94 lakhs is concerned, there has been no want of willingness on the part of the authorities to dispose of the same. Only in one case there has been a little delay. That was with respect to 18 lakh ft. of 4 inches and 6 inches oil pipes. We were about to dispose it of when the Agricultural Ministry wanted it for their campaign of Grow More Food. As a result of that the various State Governments were written to and asked to buy. But nothing was done. Now we are again writing and if they do not buy, the whole thing will be sold by public auction.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the tools, alloys, steel tubes fittings etc. amounting to Rs. 8 crores book value, were not disposed of before the Estimates Committee reported? That is the point.

Shri Gadgil: It was disposed of notionally in the sense it was given in the charge of the Controller who along with the fresh production makes an allocation to registered stockists. So far as this part of disposal is concerned for all purposes that stock is disposed of although the money comes in gradually and therefore, in the statistics branch it was shown that the 8 crores stock was still there, but as a

matter of fact it was in the process of allocation to registered stockists.

Mr. Speaker: What the hon. Members want to know is the length of the time lag between the disposal and when the money is received.

Shri Sidhva: The answer is not forthcoming.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let there be no discussion. Is the hon. Minister in a position to give the length of the time lag between the disposal and when the money is received?

Shri Gadgil: Will you repeat the question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: What is the length of the time lag between the notional disposal and the actual realization of the money?

Shri Gadgil: The period of time? I require notice of this question.

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better go to the next question.

Shri Tyagi: The Estimates Committee has been involved in this matter. On a personal explanation, I am a Member of the Estimates Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not prepared to allow any personal explanation. Let us go to the next question.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: With your kind permission, Sir, may I ask one question. There is no quarrel with anybody. What the hon Minister said was that the Estimates Committee has misunderstood. We would like to know what we have misunderstood.

Mr. Speaker: Paraphrased, it means that the matter was not properly explained to them. Let us go to the next question.

Shri Tyagi: It is still there; it is not sold.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; the hon. Member should not obstruct the proceedings in that manner.

MACHINE TOOLS

*1306. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 600 machine tools worth a crore of rupees, originally reserved for the Machine Tool Factory, were allowed to deteriorate and later released to various Government Departments ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know in what number originally machine tools were there including those from German reparations?

Shri Mahtab: The total number of machineries received as reparations was 10,472 items, out of which 2,800 are now lying, and the remaining has been disposed of one way or the other.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether those that have been disposed of were not required for the Machine Tool Factory?

Shri Mahtab: At one time—I think the hon. Member's information is based on that—three years ago, when these German reparations machineries arrived in India, there was a proposal that about 300 of them should be reserved for the proposed Machine Tool Factory. But, it took a long time to come to a decision whether a Machine Tool Factory would be set up or not. In the meanwhile the Railway Ministry and the Defence Ministry had wanted the very same machineries for themselves. Therefore, these 300 machines were transferred to the Railway Ministry and Defence Ministry.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Is it not a fact that an Expert Committee was appointed to go into this matter to find out what tools could be useful and could be preserved for the Machine Tool Factory? Is it not a fact that that Committee—the present Director-General of Disposals was one of the Members of that Committee—reported that a large quantity of these machine tools must be reserved? In spite of that report, how is it that they came to be disposed of?

Shri Mahtab: As a matter of fact, as I told you, had these been reserved for the Machine Tool factory all these three years. Government would have purchased for the Railway Ministry and the Defence Ministry the same kind of machines. It is only a transfer from one Department to another. It is not a fact that these have been disposed of to outside people. The reparations machineries have been disposed of to the Railway Ministry and Defence Ministry.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether because of that transfer, the estimated cost of the Machine Tool Factory has risen up to any extent?

Shri Mahtab: No; that has not been the case.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it a fact that apart from the Defence Ministry, many of these valuable tools were disposed of to private parties such as Birlas?

Shri Mahtab: I do not think so. The 300 machines which were reserved as a result of the recommendations of the Committee referred to by my hon. friend Mr. Ayyangar, have been given to the Defence Ministry and the Railway Ministry.

Shri Gautam: Is it not a fact that while these machine tools were being disposed of, Government was negotiating to start a new Machine Tool Factory, and these negotiations also were being carried on at the same time?

Shri Mahtab: I think it is known to the House that Government have at last come to the decision that Machine Tool Factories would be set up—not only one, but two—one organised by the Defence Ministry and the other organised by the Industry Ministry. These two are in process of construction. We cannot wait for three years and hold up the purchases of the Railway Ministry and the Defence Ministry so far as their requirements are concerned. These reparation machines have gone a great way in meeting the demands of the Railway Ministry and the Defence Ministry.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not true that the Disposals Utilisation Committee reported that 1,500 machine tools from the Disposals, 4,000 machine tools to be received from the German reparations are to be kept apart for the Machine Tool Factory, and they gave an estimate of 3 crores and 25 lakhs for the Machine Tool Factory?

Mr. Speaker: He is repeating the same question; he has explained it more than once. Next question.

CLOTH PRODUCTION

*1307. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the position of cloth production in India at present?

(b) Are superior varieties of cloth available in the country?

(c) Have the manufacturers opened any retail shops for sale of cloth in Bombay and other places?

(d) If so, what kind of cloth is sold there?

(e) Are there any Government cloth shops opened and if so, where and how many?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The average monthly production of cloth during 1949 and 1950 was 325 million yards and 303 million yards respectively.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Long cloth, shirting, dhoty, saree etc.

(e) So far only the Bombay Government have opened retail shops. There are 15 such shops in Greater Bombay and 2 or three in each of the districts. In addition, the services of a large number of Co-operative Societies are being utilised by that Government. Our Government have recommended to the State Governments to open such shops as has been done in Bombay.

Shri Sidhva: My first question is, what is the present position of cloth, today. The hon. Minister gives figures of production for 1949. I want to know what is the present position of stocks in the country.

Shri Mahtab: It is very difficult to know the present stocks because the stock does not lie with the Government. It is with the whole-salers, ratailers, and in all the States spread over. The position will be clearly seen from the figures which I have given. The average monthly production in 1949 was 325 million yards and the production per month in 1950 is 303 million yards. That is to say the position is worse than what it was in 1949.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know whether the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, whose department is maintained at a cost of one crore of rupees, has got this information or not. Do they keep this information or not?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will see that his question is, "what is the position of cloth production in India at present".

Shri Sidhva: At present means today.

Mr. Speaker: Figures of production and not of stock.

Shri Sidhva: But he is quoting figures of 1949 and 1950.

Shri Mahtab: I have given the figures for 1949 and 1950 separately. Today, we are in 1951. I do not know what the production this month is.

Shri Sidhva: Up to December 1950?

Shri Mahtab: Yes; up to December. I gave the figures separately; I said definitely 'respectively'.

Shri Sidhva: Have I understood the hon. Minister to answer part (b) of the question in the affirmative?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact that some of the stocks of superfine cloth with the Co-operative societies have been purchased by well known big merchants of Bombay and cornered by them?

Shri Mahtab: I have no information; I will make enquiry.

Shri Sidhva: Has any representation been made by the Bombay Government?

Shri Mahtab: No. Whenever any representation of that nature comes, I personally make investigations.

Shri Sidhva: Has any representation been made, personally or to the Government?

Mr. Speaker: He has replied in the negative.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister whether since December last, the prices have gone up and if so by how many times?

Shri Mahtab: That question comes later on on that very point.

Shri Alagesan: We understood the hon. Minister to say that the example of the State of Bombay may be followed by the other states. What is the profit that the Bombay Government has made?

Shri Mahtab: So far as my information goes, they have made a profit of one crore. The selling of cloth in these shops has been very smooth and that has benefited the consumers.

Shri B. K. Das: To what extent has the production of handloom been reduced last year owing to the non-availability of yarn?

Shri Mahtab: The reduction in the handloom production can be seen from the amount of yarn produced. That has gone down from 32,000 bales per month to 62,000 bales per month and out of that 62,000, 15,000 bales per month were exported. Practically, handloom production must have been reduced by 50 per cent at least.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact that the President of the Bombay Textile Mill Owners Association had given out a sort of a threat to the Government that they are not prepared to step up production any more unless such and such conditions stipulated by them are satisfied, and that otherwise, the Government would be free to take charge of the textile industry and run it? If so, what is it that the Government propose to do in order to step up production both on the yarn front as well as on the cloth front?

Shri Mahtab: That really is not the fact, and we should not be so sensitive about criticism of the Government. This matter has been fully settled and steps are now being taken to step up production.

Mr. Speaker: I think I will go to the next question.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, only just one more question.

Mr. Speaker: All right, and that will be the last question.

Shri Sidhva: What is the stock of superfine cloth at present available in the country?

Shri Mahtab: It is difficult to know the stocks and I am quite sure that it is practically impossible to get the information from all the States on that particular point.

Shri Sidhva: Is not the Textile Commissioner of the Government of India...

Mr. Speaker: I go to the next question.

SHIP-BUILDING

*1308. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many ships have been built so far on Government account and on Scindias' account in the ship-building yard at Vishakhapatnam?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): On Government account two ships have already been built and a third is under construction. Scindias have so far built on their account five ships.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether the Scindias have asked Government for a loan for the purpose of constructing a berth for new ships, and what has happened to that loan? Has Government sanctioned that loan?

Shri Mahtab: The question of loan is under consideration. But an order for three more ships has been placed with them.

Shri Sidhva: Besides the Scindias did any other concern want orders to be placed and that was not accepted by the Vizag authorities, and if so, what was the reason?

Shri Mahtab: Some other companies have applied for loans, but I do not think any other company wanted to build ships themselves.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the Western Steamship Company actually applied to the Government for permission to build certain ships, and did they also not apply for a loan?

Shri Mahtab: When the representatives of that particular company discussed the matter with me, so far

as I remember, they pressed a claim to purchase these ships at the subsidised rates. Their information was that the ships built by Scindias were going to the Scindias at the subsidised rate. This company wanted to purchase the ships at the subsidised rates. Also they wanted a loan. The whole question is being looked into.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: In view of the fact that Government sanctions about two to two and a half crores of rupees as subsidies for this work, will Government consider, the desirability of accepting the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that the Vizagapatam shipping yard may be purchased or acquired by Government?

Shri Mahtab: As a matter of fact only last year did the Government give a subsidy in the shape of the reduction of the prices, to the extent of Rs. 65 lakhs, and this year three ships are built and the same amount of subsidy will be paid. And so it is not that the subsidy is to the extent of one or two crores of rupees.

With regard to the other part of the question, a shipyard requires about Rs. 10 crores for its economic working and if Government takes over this Vizag yard, they will have to find out this sum of money for its economic working. Since Government are not in a position to invest this much of money, they are following the present procedure.

Prof. Ranga: May I know what steps are being taken to build one or two dry docks at Vizagapatam so that you can build more ships?

Shri Mahtab: All this depends upon the availability of finance and the hon. Members will know the position when the Budget is placed before them.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Is this sum of Rs. 65 lakhs mentioned by the hon. Minister in respect of one ship or for all the three ships?

Shri Mahtab: It is for all the three ships together. It may be a little less or a little more, I am giving the figure off-hand, but I can let the hon. Member have the exact figure if he wants.

EVACUEE PROPERTY IN PAKISTAN

*1309. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state what stage the discussion with Pakistan Government of questions relating to Evacuee Property in Pakistan has reached?

(b) How many claims have been received and what is the total amount of properties involved?

(c) After the expiry of 31st October, 1950, have fresh claims been received and entertained?

(d) What steps did Government take to verify the claims received?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the reply given by the Prime Minister on the 20th November, 1950, to Starred Question No. 136 standing in the name of Shri Kamath. The correspondence which has passed between the Prime Minister and Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan has already been placed on the Table of the House. Since then there has been no further development in this matter.

(b) About 4·5 lakhs claims have been received. Information regarding the total value of the properties involved is not yet available.

(c) Displaced persons, who, for good reasons, were unable to file their claims with the appropriate Registering Officers by the 31st October 1950, were allowed to submit their claims to the Joint Chief Claims Commissioner.

(d) The claims received are being classified according to the location of properties in Pakistan and are, thereafter, being verified by Claims Officers.

Shri Sidhva: What are the definite proposals of the Government with regard to these properties after the claims have been verified?

Shri A. P. Jain: The policy of the Government has been given out in the Communique published about five months back.

Shri Sidhva: But what I want to know is whether the displaced persons will get any amount from the sum realised as rent from the evacuee property? That has not been made clear, Sir.

Shri A. P. Jain: It is not a question of rent. Actually it is a question of recompensing the people as a result of the verification of the claims. Government have undertaken to recompensate those who have suffered losses.

Shri Sidhva: To what extent will they be compensated?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is not possible to say to what extent the displaced persons will be compensated. It will depend upon the value of the property left in Pakistan and the resources available at that time from different sources.

लाला अचित राम : जिन रिफ्यूजीज़ ने पहले अपने क्लेम्स दिये थे लेकिन वह कुछ

क्लेम अपने उस वक़्त देना भूल गए, क्या उन की तरफ़ से आप को कुछ सप्लीमेंटरी क्लेम वसूल हुए हैं ।

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Have the Government received any supplementary claims from the refugees who forgot to submit some of their claims when they had first submitted them?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इस के बारे में तो मैं नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन बेशक अगर कोई गलती से अपनी किसी जायदाद को लिखना भूल गया होगा तो उसको हक़ था कि मियाद के अन्दर वह अपने सप्लीमेन्टरी क्लेम दे ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I cannot say definitely, but if any body forgot to claim any of his properties, he had the right to do so within the prescribed period.]

लाला अचित राम : क्या वह अब भी सप्लीमेन्टरी क्लेम दे सकता है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Can he still submit the supplementary claim?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अब तो तारीख खत्म हो गई ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The date has expired now.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا مالیہ منتری صاحب کو کوئی اس قسم کی خبر ہے کہ پاکستان گورنمنٹ نے بھی سپلیمنٹری کلیم رجسٹر کئے ہیں۔

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Has the hon. Minister any information to the effect that Government of Pakistan have also registered the supplementary claims?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मुझे तो ऐसी कोई इतला नहीं है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have no such information.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the property left in East Bengal also included in this arrangement?

Shri A. P. Jain: In the East, the Evacuee Property law is not applicable.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Do Government intend continuing the recovery of rent from the displaced persons even when their claims have been verified and the value has been found to be ten or twenty times more than the value of the property that is now in their possession?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as rent is concerned, different systems are being followed with regard to rural and other properties. In the case of rural property in the Punjab, actually the land revenue is being realised and the rest is being entered merely as a book entry. So far as urban property is concerned, something less than the fair concession rent is being realised. Very few claims have been verified so far so that the question of correlating the rent with the property left behind is not a practical proposition to-day.

Sardar Hukam Singh: When the claims have been verified and it is found that even interest counted at 4 per cent. much exceeds the rental value of the property that he has got in his possession, will that person be allowed remission of the rent for the property that he occupies?

Shri A. P. Jain: The question that the hon. Member has raised is a big matter of principle. It can be looked upon from two points of view, from the point of view of the individual refugee and from the point of refugees as a whole. So far, whatever income we receive from the evacuee property is being utilised in different manners for the benefit of the refugees as a whole. Possibly there is a conflict between the interests of the two and we have not formulated any policy so far. But if a policy in the interest of the individual is framed we shall have to adopt some kind of beneficial schemes for the refugees such as allowances to the widows, which are today being paid from the income received from evacuee property.

Thakur Krishna Singh: How many of these claims have been verified so far?

Shri A. P. Jain: I should think only a few thousands of such claims because the Claims Inspectors have been sent to the field only recently.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलायेंगे, जैसा कि उन्होंने ऐडवाइज़री कमेटी में फ़रमाया था कि जब से क्लेम्स के वैरीफ़िकेशन का काम आरम्भ होगा उस वक़्त से लेकर ६ महीने के अन्दर यह काम समाप्त हो जायगा, कि वह ६ महीने में यह काम समाप्त कर सकेंगे ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** As he had said in the Advisory Committee that the work of verification of the claims would be completed within six months of

the commencement, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether he would really be able to complete this work within the six months' time?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं ने कभी ऐडवाईज़री कमैटी में यह नहीं कहा था कि ६ महीने में यह काम समाप्त हो जायगा। मेरी बराबर यह कोशिश रही है कि जितनी जल्दी यह काम समाप्त हो सके उस को समाप्त कर दिया जाय। जिस वक़्त क्लेम्स आ रहे थे उसी वक़्त हम ने वैरीफ़िकेशन के बारे में जो इबतदाई बातें हो सकती थीं उन के ऊपर ग़ौर किया और क्लेम्स ख़त्म होने से पहले ही हम ने क्लेम्स आफ़िसर का एपाइंटमेंट भी कर दिया था।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I had never said in the Advisory Committee that this work would be completed within six months. It has been my constant endeavour to finish this work within the earliest possible time. In fact we examined the preliminary things relating to the verification of claims even when the claims were being received and we had appointed the Claims Officers before the last date for the submission of the claims.]

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether legislation regarding evacuee property in Eastern Pakistan (Bengal and Assam) as agreed upon in the Chief Secretaries Conference has been undertaken?

Shri A. P. Jain: As the hon. Member is aware an Ordinance has been passed but it is of a very different nature from the evacuee law prevailing in the West.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that from the rents realised from evacuee properties many other schemes are being financed. Is it not a fact that the Government had stated that these realisations will be earmarked for payment of evacuee property claims when occasion arose? If so, for what purpose are the rents utilised now?

Shri A. P. Jain: As I have stated, one of the schemes for which these rents are being utilised is the payment of allowances to widows. As to what will be ultimately done with the pool created from the realisation of rents will depend upon the time when the final disposition of the evacuee properties takes place.

Tea (Exports)

***1310. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that tea shipments from India to both the United States of America and Canada have shown a decline?

(b) If so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Over a period of the last few months, there has been a slight decline in shipments of Indian tea to the United States of America and Canada, compared with exports during the same period of the year 1949. However, taking the figures for the calendar years, exports for 1950 have kept up to the 1949 levels. In the circumstances, it would be premature to attach any significance to the recent decline in exports. In January 1951, American buyers have again been active at the Calcutta auctions.

(b) Does not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that this decline has been due to the inferior packing of Indian tea?

Shri Karmarkar: No. Our information is that it is a seasonal decline and in the proper season the orders for tea rise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the percentage of the decline compared to the 1949 exports?

Shri Karmarkar: I will make that clear. From 1st January to the 30th November the comparable figures for the U.S.A. are 30·7 million lbs. in 1949 and 32·7 million in 1950. Taking the months from the 1st of April to the 31st December the comparable figures for the U.S.A. are 26 million lbs. and odd for 1949 and 23 million lbs. and odd for 1950. For Canada for the period from 1st April to 31st December 18,834,000 for 1949 and for 1950 the figure is 15,000,854.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that Indian tea is selling 10 per cent. less in U.S.A. and Canada compared to Ceylon tea?

Shri Karmarkar: Our information is that in parts of the year Indian tea is discounted by two annas per pound as compared with Ceylon tea.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the reason for this?

Shri Karmarkar: One of the reasons for it appears to be that American and Canadian buyers favour the Indian second flush-tea and the better

type but these represent only a small percentage of the crop. At other times Ceylon teas are preferred and during non-season periods Indian tea is discounted by two annas per pound.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have any complaints reached the Ministry that the inferior quality packing of Indian tea has had an adverse effect on its sales and if so, what steps are being taken to see that the quality of the packing is improved?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall look into the matter as to whether any complaints have been received and if it is a fact, due action will be taken.

Shri Gautam: Are Government aware that a large quantity of Indian tea imported in U. K. is again re-exported to U.S.A.? If so, what steps are Government taking to have direct dealings with the U.S.A.?

Shri Karmarkar: It does not arise out of the question. But if it does, I shall require notice.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it a fact that the quality of Indian tea is deteriorating and because of this deterioration the demand is getting less?

Shri Karmarkar: There was a complaint some time past but matters have now very much improved.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Indian tea chests stand comparison with the Finish plywood chests used by Ceylon producers?

Shri Karmarkar: Our information is that Ceylon chests are a little better than Indian tea chests.

Shri Sidhva *rose*

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Purchase of Tea at Calcutta

***1311. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that importers are free from 1st January, 1951, to buy tea on private account at the Calcutta auctions?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): It has always been open for anyone to buy tea on private account at the Calcutta auctions which are conducted by the trade and not by the Government. The export auctions which were temporarily closed due to the bulk purchase of tea by the United Kingdom Government, were resumed in the beginning of 1947 and have since then continued to be held. I should add for the information of the hon. Member that even after 1947 till this year the bulk purchase scheme was continued and to that extent private purchase of tea at Calcutta was very nominal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Why have importers been permitted to buy tea on private account, a privilege which had been denied before?

Shri Karmarkar: The reason for that, as I have said, was that during the period of the war there was what was called bulk purchase scheme and it went on from the latter half of 1942 up to 1946. As from 1947, that is from 1st January, 1947 there was no ban on private export of tea. The arrangement for bulk purchase expired from 1951 onwards. As long as the arrangement of bulk purchase continued there was very little scope for private purchase of tea in the Calcutta auctions. But from 1951 onwards the auctions in Calcutta will be held and they will be open for private purchase and sale.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is a fact that after the purchase of tea by U. K. through the bulk purchase system the U. K. re-exported the tea to various countries and collected thus the entire middleman's profit?

Shri Karmarkar: Not to our information. If that is so we shall try to find out, at least as a matter of research.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the bulk purchase system now be renewed or will it be discontinued?

Shri Karmarkar: That is discontinued for the time being, as from this year onwards.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What steps have been taken by Government to capture the market for tea in Europe which was formerly held by the U.K.?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not able to appreciate that question. It was not a question of capturing a market: it is a question of expansion of the trade.

Rehabilitation

***1312. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of West and East Pakistan displaced persons who have been rehabilitated in India State-wise; and

(b) the number of those displaced persons who are still in need of being rehabilitated?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). This question is difficult to answer in precise terms. It is not possible to form a correct estimate of the number of persons rehabilitated because (i) the level upto which the economic recovery of the individual should have taken place before he can be said to be 'rehabilitated' is not easy to define and so far, no such definition has been suggested or worked out; (ii) a large number of persons have 'rehabilitated' themselves by their own efforts and in the absence of an economic census of displaced persons, their number cannot be easily ascertained; and (iii) even for those who have received direct governmental assistance, there is no organization in the States to follow up the individual cases.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether there is any record of the persons who have not yet been rehabilitated?

Shri A. P. Jain: I think, Sir, I have fully answered that question already.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The reply was that there was no record of persons who have been rehabilitated. Therefore, I want to know whether there is any record of displaced persons who have not yet been rehabilitated.

Shri A. P. Jain: The idea of my hon. friend appears to be that the refugee and his rehabilitation is something like a piece of cloth or any other inanimate object which can be measured by a foot-scale or a yard-scale. Actually I consider it to be more of a psychological question, and a person who feels that he is living well, that he can educate his children, that he is a citizen of India like any other person, well, I treat him as rehabilitated. Unfortunately, no psychologist has yet been able to develop some kind of a scale by which he can measure the psychological mental rehabilitation.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, it was a very simple question. The question was how many of the displaced persons have been provided shelter, occupation etc.

Mr. Speaker: I don't think it is necessary to discuss it further.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it not a fact that in the recent very well got up bulletin of the Rehabilitation Ministry it has been definitely stated that 99 per cent. of the refugees have been rehabilitated and only one per cent. is left to be rehabilitated?

Shri A. P. Jain: Subject to the limitation that I have stated before the House and subject to the interpretation of the term "rehabilitation" as I have stated before the House.

CLOTH

*1313. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total yardage and value of superfine, fine and coarse cloth manufactured in India during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the total yardage and value of textile cloth of the three qualities exported from India to various countries;

(c) what percentage of this was exported to hard and soft currency areas; and

(d) the stock and manufactured cloth at the commencement of each year during these three years and the carry-over of textile stocks at the beginning of the year 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (d). The information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 11]. I may draw the attention of hon. Members to the last item in the table showing the figures of stock with the mills.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the export of cloth is on the increase or on the decrease?

Shri Mahtab: It is certainly on the increase and at present we are taking steps to decrease it.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that on account of a lacuna in the Government communication issued by the Textile Commissioner a lot of coarse and medium cloth has been exported which was not meant to be exported?

Shri Mahtab: It was not really a lacuna. The Government notification used the expression which was in use since 1943, "fine and superfine", but it was interpreted and things were done in that way by making a distinction between warp and woof. Under that pretext certain exports were made but that has been corrected.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Is it not a fact that the quota of supply to the different States has been reduced by 50 per cent?

Shri Mahtab: Quotas have been reduced because of the non-availability of cloth. The quota is fixed according as the production goes.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Has the quota for Uttar Pradesh been reduced to one-third only?

Shri Mahtab: The exact figures are not with me but no discrimination has been made between the States. Reduction, if there has been any, has been done on a uniform scale.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Has the State made any representation that the cloth supplied to that State is quite insufficient for the population of the State?

Shri Mahtab: All the State Governments have not only represented but they are bitterly complaining against it.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Has it been the policy of the Government to export only surplus cloth after meeting the demand of the local market?

Shri Mahtab: That is not possible to do because it depends on various other considerations also, but so far as the local needs are concerned we are taking steps to meet them as far as possible.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that *dhoties* and *saris* have completely gone underground and that they are not available in many parts of the country?

Shri Mahtab: *Dhoties* and *saris* were really in great demand and therefore recently an order has been issued calling upon the mills to produce a certain percentage of *dhoties* and *saris*.

CLOTH

*1314. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the ceiling and retail prices at which the superfine, fine and coarse cloth was being sold during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) whether control on the distribution of the manufactured cloth was relaxed in the years 1949 and 1950 and if so, in what manner;

(c) what percentage of the cloth manufactured during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 were allowed to be sold in the free markets;

(d) whether any complaint has been made to Government that there is a good deal of black-marketing in such stocks; and

(e) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to minimise and eliminate the chances of abuse?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 12.]

(b) and (c). Yes. In September 1949, Mills were permitted to sell one third of their monthly production of cloth to dealers of their choice with a view to enabling them to liquidate accumulations. In August 1950 the concession was modified as follows:

1. Sales for export will be the first charge on the one third production; consequently free sales will be restricted to the portion of the one third production not drawn for export.

2. If sales for export from a mill exceed one third portion in any month that mill cannot avail itself of the free sale concession during that month.

(d) and (e). Yes. At a Conference held in November 1950, State Representatives pointed out that black-marketing was going on in respect of the free sale cloth and recommended the withdrawal of this concession. The matter is now under the active consideration of Government.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it a fact that most of the cloth that was reserved for the free market was sold outside India and that that was the reason for the non-availability of cloth in the market?

Shri Mahtab: The shortage arose because the one-third which was to be sold in India was not available in the market.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it a fact that the only agency which operated as a check against blackmarketing by big mill-owners, namely the Central Enforcement Directorate, Government have decided to abolish from this month?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I don't think it arises.

Shri Tyagi: After the recommendation of this conference to stop private sales, what are the points towards which the Government's attention is being directed and which they are considering as a result of this recommendation?

Mr. Speaker: Which recommendation?

Shri Tyagi: The recommendation to stop giving cloth to the mills for private sale. The hon. Minister said the recommendation was under consideration. I want to know whether there are any other points like this which Government are considering, and also why this point has not been accepted so far?

Shri Mahtab: Whenever we use the expression "free market" it really means that the mills are authorised to sell their goods through their own agencies, whereas for the other quota the goods are sold through the nominees of the States. The prices in both the cases are controlled. Therefore "free market" does not mean that mills are permitted to sell at any price they like. The point is that irregular distribution—I would not say "blackmarketing"—takes place not only with regard to the one-third but also with regard to the two-thirds. Therefore, some step has to be taken to see that the cloth allotted to States is regularly distributed. These things are under consideration in consultation with the State Governments. The State Governments will be advised to tighten up their administrative machinery for distribution. Because the irregular distribution is not confined only to this one-third but spreads to the two-thirds also, therefore, the problem is not a very simple one as it appears on the surface.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Intending Evacuees

***1315. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons declared intending evacuees;

(b) the number of houses and other properties of such evacuees taken under custody; and

(c) the manner in which those are being dealt with?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The information is not readily available.

(b) The approximate number of urban evacuee property as on 30-9-1950 is:—

Residential houses.	2,62,452
Business premises .	33,518
Industrial promises.	1,972
	2,97,942

(c) Except where any property is requisitioned for Government purposes or is in possession of old tenants, evacuee property, is generally allotted by the Custodians to displaced persons.

Abducted Women

***1316. Shri Balmiki:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) how many of the abducted women recovered from Pakistan up to January, 1951, have been restored to their families or other near relatives; and

(b) how many are still left unsettled?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):

(a) 7,052.

(b) 123.

Displaced Harijans

***1317. Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of Harijan *bastees* (colonies) where Harijan displaced persons have made unauthorised occupation?

(b) Is it a fact that coercion and physical force were used to eject them from their unauthorised constructions?

(c) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to provide alternative accommodation to them?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). This question will be answered by my hon. Colleague, the Health Minister in due course.

Newsprint

***1318. Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the newsprint crisis which India is facing;

(b) if so, whether any representation has been made at Governmental level to newsprint-producing countries, particularly Canada, to allocate some newsprint to India for 1951 and for subsequent years and if so, with what result;

(c) whether it is a fact that other Commonwealth countries are getting about one lac tons of newsprint through the United Kingdom in 1951; and

(d) if so, whether any representation has been made by Government to the U.K. to allocate a part of this pooled quantity to India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 13.]

(c) Yes.

(d) Government have asked the High Commissioner for India in London to move the U.K. Government to allot to India at least 15,000 tons of newsprint out of the one lac tons allocated by them for export to Commonwealth countries. The final decision of the U.K. Government is awaited.

Sikhs and Hindus from Pakistan-held Areas of Kashmir

***1319. Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) how many displaced persons both Hindus and Sikhs were repatriated from Pakistan-held areas of Kashmir; and

(b) the number of abducted girls still in this area to be repatriated?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) From October 1948 to the middle of January 1951, 5,320 Hindu and Sikh Displaced persons were repatriated to India from the so-called 'Azad' Kashmir area. Prior to October 1948 a separate record of evacuees from that area was not kept.

(b) The raiders abducted women (including Muslim women) on a large scale from the areas raided by them in the Jammu and Kashmir State. I regret it is not possible to state the exact or even approximate number of abducted women in these areas.

Iron and Steel in Disposals

***1320. Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the quantity of iron and steel remaining with the Disposals at present?

(b) When will the materials be disposed of completely?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). The reply already given for Starred Question No. 1305 applies to this Question also.

Appointment of German Consul-General in India

***1321. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether West German Government have approached the Government of India for the appointment of a German Consul-General in India; and

(b) if so, whether the appointment is likely to be made and if so, when?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) In October 1950, on an enquiry by the Allied High Commission for Germany we replied that we would welcome the establishment of such a Consulate-General.

(b) The appointment will most probably be made soon but the exact date depends on the decision of the West German Government.

Khairwas in Vindhya Pradesh

***1322. Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the minimum and maximum daily wages being earned by Khairwas (cashew manufacturers) in Vindhya Pradesh in the case of (i) a male, (ii) female, or (iii) a child wage earner?

(b) How many hours in a day are they required to work in a week?

(c) What facilities, if any, are given by contractors?

(d) What is the manufacturing cost of cashew, what is the selling price and what is the margin of profit which goes to the contractors of cashew forests in Vindhya Pradesh?

(e) What is the total number of Khairwas including women and children?

(f) Is there any arrangement for the education of their children?

(g) Into which of the following classes or categories will they be enumerated during the forthcoming census—

(i) backward class;

(ii) scheduled caste; and

(iii) scheduled tribe?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Employment is not on the basis of individuals. Wages are paid on the basis of out-turn. An average family consisting of a husband, wife and one or two children earn about two Rupees a day.

(b) This is not fixed as the Khairwas are paid on the out-turn of their work.

(c) The contractors advance money to the Khairwas ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 per family and provide free temporary sheds. Supply of clothing and ration is also arranged by the contractors and charged at the time of the settlement of accounts.

(d) It is regretted that the manufacturing cost is not available but Government understand that the contractors make a profit of more than Rs. 40 per maund.

(e) Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 families of Khairwas are believed to be working in the State of Vindhya Pradesh. In addition a considerable number of Khairwas go out every year to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan for their business pursuits.

(f) There are no special arrangements for the purpose.

(g) The list of Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes in Part C States have

charged damage charges for the accommodation?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): Yes.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*1334. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the financial facilities which Government are rendering to displaced persons for constructing or buying houses in or out of the various Government schemes in Delhi State; and

(b) what are the provisions for accommodating such displaced persons as cannot buy or hire the houses?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The following facilities are made available for constructing or buying houses to displaced persons in Delhi:—

(i) Plots measuring 30′ × 60′ are leased out on nominal rent.

(ii) Plots measuring 800 sq. yds. or more, are sold out to refugees only by tender subject to a reserve price of actual cost to Government.

(iii) Building material is supplied at control rates.

(iv) Houses at cost price are sold for cash, and

(v) Certain houses are given to the displaced persons on instalment basis.

(b) Obviously the hon. Member has destitutes in mind and Government are maintaining a large number of homes for the destitutes, where such persons can be accommodated.

MEDICAL AID FOR MINE LABOURERS

*1335. **Shri Ramraj Tajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what are the arrangements for rendering medical aid to the labour employed in mines and quarries employing over one thousand workers?

(b) Are similar provisions made in Government owned mines also?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) According to the Rules framed under the Indian Mines Act, 1923, the owners of mines and quarries maintain ambulance and medical appliances and employ persons trained in first-aid. The inspection staff of the Mines Department ensure in the course of their inspection of the mines and quarries that these statutory provisions are complied with. In accordance with the bye-laws framed by the Jharia Mines Board of Health and the Asansol Mines Board of Health, medical officers are maintained at all mines in the Jharia and Raniganj coalfields. In addition to what is being done by the employers, the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund and the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund have opened a number of hospitals and dispensaries for the exclusive benefit of coal miners, mica miners and their families. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has also agreed to the payment of a subsidy equal to the amount spent by colliery owners for the maintenance of dispensaries subject to certain maximum limit.

(b) Yes.

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION (EXPENDITURE)

*1336. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state what part of the expenditure so far incurred on relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons, if any, is chargeable to revenues of the various States?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): In some cases the cost of the staff at the headquarter is met by the Central and State Governments in the proportion of fifty-fifty. Besides 50 per cent. of the loss on loans as ultimately ascertained shall have to be borne by the State Governments.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

*1337. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the Agricultural Labour Enquiry is expected to be concluded; and

(b) whether Government propose to notify the minimum wages in Agriculture or appoint a Board for the determination of the same?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) According to present programme, the field work is expected to be concluded during the first half of year 1951.

(b) It is for the appropriate Government—the State Government in this case—to decide the procedure to be adopted by them for fixing minimum rates of wages in agriculture.

CENTRAL TEA BOARD

*1338. **Shri Venkataraman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there is any representative of the Government of India on the Executive Committee of the Central Tea Board?

(b) If so, how many meetings of the Executive Committee did he attend from June 1950 to December 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There is, at present, no representative of the Government of India on the Executive Committee of the Central Tea Board.

(b) Does not arise.

CLOTH PRICES

*1339. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cloth prices in India have been increased;

(b) if so, by how much;

(c) whether it is a fact that the price of medium cloth has not been increased;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) how far this increase has affected yarn prices?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By about 15 per cent. in the case of coarse cloth, 5 per cent. in the case of medium cloth, 15 per cent in the case of fine, and 6 per cent. in the case of superfine.

(c) Prices of medium cloth have also been increased.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The increase in yarn prices will be on the same basis as stated in reply to part (b) of the question depending upon the counts of yarn spun.

TRADE WITH HUNGARY

*1340. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new arrangements have been made between India and Hungary for trade with each other;

(b) if so, for what quantities and for what commodities; and

(c) what commodities are intended to be imported from Hungary?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). Trade letters were exchanged between the Governments of India and Hungary on the 20th January 1951. In these letters provision has been made to the effect that applications for licences for import of goods from Hungary into India would be treated as favourably as applications for import from any other country of the soft currency group in accordance with the licensing procedure in force from time to time, saving any exceptional commitments in any particular trade agreement. As regards imports into and exports from Hungary, that country has agreed to treat India as a trade agreement country for reasonable quantities of the commodities mentioned in the Schedules attached to the letters. No quantities have been specified in the Schedules. A copy of the letters and the Schedules referred to has been placed in the Library of the House.

EX-MILL PRICE OF YARN

*1341. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether textile mills started during or after the war used to get 10 per cent. extra on the ex-mill price fixed for yarn?

(b) How many such mills have come into existence?

(c) Has this 10 per cent. higher rate been recently stopped?

(d) How many mills have been closed as a result of this reduction in the higher rates?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). No such concession was given to the textile mills which came into production during or after the war. The concession at rates varying from 3 to 12 per cent. over ex-mill prices was, however, allowed to certain uneconomic mills in Bombay and some other States.

(c) The rate of 10 per cent. which was allowed by the Bombay Government to certain mills in the Bombay State was reduced to 6½ per cent. by the Bombay Government with a view to meeting out equitable treatment to all such uneconomic mills.

(d) One mill has closed down with effect from 1st January 1951 and two others have given notices of closure with effect from the 1st February 1951 in the Bombay State. The Bombay Government have since decided that the concession of 10 per cent. margin to these mills be continued for another six months. It is hoped that this concession will enable the mills to remain in production.

PRICE OF PETROL AND KEROSENE

*1342. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of petrol and kerosene, produced in Digboi in Assam by A.O.C. and B.O.C., is higher per gallon in Assam than it is in the other States of India;

(b) if so, what is the reason therefor; and

the franchise and so on, matters have been settled in consultation with the Government of India.

Sardar B. S. Man: As admitted by the Government will it be competent now for Jammu and Kashmir Constituent Assembly to decide the issue whether to accede or not to accede to the Indian Government?

Shri Gopalaswami: There is nothing which can prevent a Constituent Assembly from pronouncing itself upon that question.

Shri T. Husain: Will the people of those parts of Kashmir which are in Pakistan be invited by the Kashmir Government to send their representatives to the Constituent Assembly?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no doubt the Kashmir Government will welcome such representatives, but whether their wish is going to be implemented is another matter.

INTERNATIONAL AIR PORTS IN INDIA

*1348. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the international airports in India;

(b) what are the regular international passenger services touching those ports; and

(c) the average number of passengers passing through such air-ports every month?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (c). The designated international airports and the average number of passengers passing through them every month during 1950 are:

(i) Bombay (Santa Cruz)	11,676
(ii) Calcutta (Dum Dum)	33,347
(iii) Delhi (Palam)	4,833

(b) I lay a statement on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 14.]

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the total revenue collected from all the aerodromes?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I require notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the total revenue collected from each of these three aerodromes?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That too does not arise out of this question.

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि इन पैसेंजर्स में पाकिस्तान के कितने पैसेंजर्स हैं ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state as to how many of these passengers belong to Pakistan?]

श्री खुर्शेद लाल : यह तो मेरे पास अलहिदा अलहिदा तादाद नहीं है ।

[**Shri Khurshed Lal:** I have got no separate figures with me.]

Shri Sidhva: In view of the fact that the largest number of passengers passed through Dum Dum, namely 33,347 as against 11,676 in Bombay, is it contemplated to build a new aerodrome with all the facilities required for the passengers? If so, when is it going to be built?

Shri Khurshed Lal: In Dum Dum we are already constructing a new runway.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has it come to the notice of Government that there is too much congestion of passengers and aeroplanes in Dum Dum, and if so, what steps have been taken to relieve the congestion?

Shri Khurshed Lal: To relieve the congestion alternative arrangements have been made at Barrackpore and all the freight traffic have been diverted there.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I ask whether Government receive any revenue from these Airway companies that operate through these airports?

Shri Khurshed Lal: They have to pay landing and take off charges.

Shri Sidhva: I put a question whether in view of the large number of passengers passing through the airport, Government contemplated building a new aerodrome. I did not hear the reply properly.

Mr. Speaker: He has already stated that he had made certain arrangements.

Shri Khurshed Lal: We are already constructing a new big runway at Dum Dum and also in order to relieve the congestion there, we have diverted the freighter service from that aerodrome to Barrackpore.

CENTRAL JUTE RESEARCH STATION

*1349. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to establish a Central Jute Research station near Titagarh, eight miles from Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure involved?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes. The Government of West Bengal have made available to the Indian Central Jute Committee free of cost 101 acres of land at Nilganj near Barrackpore about 19 miles from Calcutta for this purpose.

(b) The estimates of expenditure have not yet been finally drawn up.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any contributions have been made by the jute industry?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got information on that. I want notice.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know to what extent progress has been made in this connection, whether the necessary plant has already been imported or anything has been done in this regard?

Shri Thirumala Rao: After the Partition, towards the beginning of 1948 a new Jute Marketing Research Institute was set up with a nucleus from the laboratories in a rented house at Hooghly. Now a 101 acre farm has been provided by the West Bengal Government and the Institute is now being shifted to the new place.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not a fact that the Central Jute Committee, which is in existence so long, conducted some research in jute?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, it is a fact, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it only transferring all those functions to this new Research Station or some additional function is to be given to them?

Shri Thirumala Rao: All research work and development of jute is conducted by the Central Jute Committee with the assistance of the Government of India.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether in the existing Jute Research Institute any research has been made in order to cure jute of its water habit?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that particular question.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF SUGAR

*1350. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what has been the total production of sugar from January to December, 1950?

(b) Is there any surplus after allotment to various States?

(c) If so, how is the surplus going to be distributed?

(d) What is the sugar position for the year 1951?

(e) Do Government intend to import any sugar during the current year?

(f) Is any increased production expected during this year compared to the previous year?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Sugar production year is taken from 1st November to 31st October. During the year ending October 1950 the total production was 9,76,110 tons

(b) Yes. As against 9,76,110 tons produced during 1949-50 and 5,550 tons imported, 9,55,800 tons were allotted to State Governments for consumption from 15th December 1949 to 30th November 1950 leaving a surplus of 25,860 tons on 1st December, 1950.

(c) The surplus will be allotted to State Governments against their consumption quotas for 1951.

(d) It is expected to be better than last year.

(e) Government have no intention at present of importing any sugar except the unshipped quantity purchased in 1950.

(f) Yes.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the instructions of the Ministry are that after procuring for the rationed areas, the rest of the quantity should be sold free and how many States have agreed to the Central Government's proposal?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The policy of the Government has been declared that after the requirements of the Government are met, the surplus production can be sold in the free market and that can be decided only after the production season is over. This is the policy announced by the Central Government.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know, Sir,...

Mr. Speaker: How many State Governments have agreed?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Almost all the States have agreed.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total consumption that is estimated during 1951, on the estimate of 1950?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Total consumption is computed in accordance with the consumption figures of the last two years. It is estimated at ten lakh tons.

Shri Tyagi: Has the Government quota of sugar production been fulfilled by the factories when they have permitted the factories to have private sales in the market?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have not permitted private sales in the market.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Have some of the factories completed their prescribed quota of 107 per cent. of the last year's production?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The crushing season is not yet complete to arrive at the figure.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: In how many States are there free sales at present?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is no free sale in any State.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is there any free market for the sale of sugar in Delhi? If so, what is the rate at which sugar is selling?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that question.

Shri T. N. Singh: Could the hon. Minister give me information as to what amount is allotted to the Confectioners in the Delhi province itself and what proportion does that bear to the quantity given to individual consumers?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for details of these figures.

Shri Poonacha: What is the unshipped quantity of sugar that is yet expected in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: About 40,000 tons are still expected.

Shri Goenka: May I know what is the un-shipped quantity for the year 1950?

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly the question which he answered just now.

Shri Goenka: What is the total quantity purchased in the year 1950 for import into India, what is the quantity shipped, and what is the quantity still to be shipped?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sixty thousand tons were purchased of which 19,800 tons were imported; the remaining quantity remains to be imported.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the full quota allotted to the aerated waters manufacturers has been supplied last year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of the question.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Goenka: One question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

SUGAR FOR AJMER

*1351. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of sugar allotted to the State of Ajmer in the year 1950;

(b) the quantity of sugar actually released to the various ration shopkeepers in the State of Ajmer up to 31st December, 1950, and the quantity of sugar actually distributed by them to the consumers;

(c) the quantity of sugar allotted to the *halwais*, confectioners, teavendors and other establishments in the State of Ajmer, in the city of Ajmer and in the rest of the State of Ajmer and what percentage does this quantity form of the total quota allotted to the State;

(d) whether the State authorities have got any machinery to check as to whether the quota allotted to establishments mentioned in part (c) above is actually consumed by them, and does not disappear in the black-market; and

(e) whether the Ajmer rationing authority or the anti-corruption department have held any enquiry regarding the actual consumption of sugar and sale of sweets by the confectioners and *halwais*, and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) 4779 tons. As there was no control on sugar in 1948-49, no quota of sugar was allotted to the State during that year. But when sugar was frozen in September, 1949, a quantity of 800 tons sugar was allotted to the State on an *ad hoc* basis from the frozen stocks for consumption during the months of October to mid-December, 1949.

(b) 4497 and 4282 tons respectively.

(c) In the city of Ajmer 37.1 tons and in the rest of the State 23.5 tons monthly. This quantity forms 13 per cent. of the total average quota of 460 tons per month allotted to this State during the calendar year 1950.

(d) There is small staff for enforcement but the number of establishments is so large and the nature of their business is such that real check in practice cannot be maintained on the utilisation of the allotted sugar.

(e) Yes, quotas are issued to establishments and other quota-holders after due enquiry.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether even after there is a free market, these quotas are allotted to these establishments?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir; I have not got information on that.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether, in respect of the Centrally Administered Areas, it is the Government of India that decides the policy whether there is to be a free market or not, or whether it is the State Government that decides the policy?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The policy is decided by the Government of India in consultation with the State Governments.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether there is any free market for the sale of sugar in any of the Centrally Administered Areas and whether the policy is determined by the Government of India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Almost all the States have got a free market over and above the quota.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question was in respect of the Centrally Administered Areas about which the policy is laid down by the Government of India. What is the policy laid down by the Government of India in respect of free market in sugar?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is a uniform policy all over India.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the *per capita* quota allotted for Ajmer?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it uniform throughout India or does it vary from State to State?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It varies from State to State.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the principle behind it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ghule: May I know whether it is not a fact that instructions have been issued by the Central Government to the State Governments that *Halwais* should not be allotted sugar?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No such instructions have been issued.

Shri Dwivedi: What quantity is given to the confectioners of Ajmer, and the rest of India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The All India Confectioners Association is allotted a certain quota, which makes distribution among its constituents and Ajmer gets its share.

VILLAGE OIL INDUSTRY

*1352. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any 'village oil industry' Enquiry Committee was constituted under 'Oil Seeds' Committee to enquire into the condition of village oil pressing industry in India in 1949;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, what are the main recommendations; and

(d) what action, if any, has been taken on the recommendations?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) and (d). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 15.]

Shri Barman: Has the Government considered the amount that would be collected by means of a cess of one pice per pound of oil extracted in the mills? Is it to the extent of 75 lakhs of rupees?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got information: I want notice.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that the development and expansion of the oil industry requires a lot of money, will Government give its urgent thought to give effect to this recommendation No. 1?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government have noticed the recommendation of the Oil Seeds Committee in this behalf and will give their best consideration to it.

Shri Barman: In part (d) (iii), of the answer it is stated that certain Governments have accepted this recommendation that *telis* owning two *ghanis* be exempted from sales tax? Is this exemption on a permanent basis or a temporary basis?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact that the Annual meeting of the Central Oil Seeds Committee came to be postponed at the last moment, not on the orders of the President or the Vice-President, but some other orders communicated from some source in the Ministry?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. As the President of the Central Oil Seeds Committee fell ill suddenly, the meeting had to be cancelled.

Shri Munavalli: When did the Government receive the report of the Enquiry Committee?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Committee first submitted its report in October, 1949.

Shri Dwivedi: Has the President of the Oil Seeds' Committee recovered since then?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Oh yes, by your goodwill.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that the development of this industry requires that the government should give exemption to the *Ghanis* on a permanent basis, will Government consider the desirability of asking the State Governments to consider the matter of giving exemption to this cottage industry on a permanent basis?

Shri Thirumala Rao: This is a question of interfering with the State Government's discretion in the matter of taxing its own resources.

Ghee (Production and Consumption)

*1353. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the average outturn of *ghee* per maund of milk in India;

(b) whether the outturn varies from cow's milk to she-buffalo's milk and if so, what is the variation;

(c) what percentage of the total production of milk in this country is converted into *ghee*; and

(d) what is the average *per capita* consumption of *ghee* per year in India?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) About 2.1 seers.

(b) The average outturn per maund of cow's milk is about 2.00 seers and for buffalo's milk about 2.8 seers.

(c) About 43 per cent.

(d) 1·4 seers per annum in undivided India. Figures for divided India are not yet available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Are Government aware that the annual *per capita* consumption of *ghee* in India is the lowest in the world, and if so, what steps have Government taken to improve the production of *ghee* in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government are aware that the consumption of *ghee* is very low in India and the Government in the department concerned are taking every possible step to improve the production of *ghee*.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the annual quantity of *ghee* imported to India by land and by sea?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I don't think any *ghee* is being imported to India from outside.

Cotton Crops

*1354. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the prospects of cotton crops in the country this year; and

(b) the estimated production in the various States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The prospects of cotton crops during 1950-51 in the Country, as a whole, were fairly satisfactory.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to Starred Question No. 603 on the 4th December, 1950.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether the Planning Commission has made out any five year plan regarding the cash crops to be produced in this country, and if so what is that plan?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any finished report of the Planning Commission in this behalf.

Shri Sidhva: What is the production of cotton expected in the next five years? Will that be laid down now, or will there be change from cash crop to food crop and food crop to cash crop?

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member referring to any recommendation of the Planning Commission?

Shri Sidhva: Yes, but this relates to the cotton crop, and the work of the Cotton Committee also.

Mr. Speaker: But the hon. Minister has said he knows nothing about the recommendations of the Planning Commission.

Shri Dwivedi: Are Government aware of any reasons why for the past 25 years the Vindhya Pradesh is not producing large quantities of cotton as it used to do before?

Mr. Speaker: We will proceed to the next question.

Santa Cruz, Dum Dum and Palam Air Ports

*1355. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are planning for the development and expansion of Santa Cruz Airport, Dum Dum Airport and Palam Airport?

(b) If so, what are the estimated expenditures for these airports separately?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The development of the airports at Santa Cruz, Dum Dum and Palam was started soon after the last war and is in progress.

(b) The estimated cost of the development schemes as envisaged in the ten year programme of Civil Aviation Capital Works prepared by the Civil Aviation Department is Rs. 5,53,34,664 for Santa Cruz, Rs. 3,95,06,590 for Dum Dum and Rs. 3,34,53,888 for Palam. Due, however, to the present, stringent need for economy, it is unlikely that the Schemes will be completed in ten years as originally planned. Only facilities which are essential for the operation of air transport are being provided at these airports at present.

Shri Sidhva: What is the amount to be spent this year for each of these airports, if the figures are available for each airport separately?

Shri Khurshed Lal: All the figures were given in the Budget Estimates I think.

Shri Sidhva: But I am asking for the year 1951.

Shri Khurshed Lal: These will be available when the Budget is presented.

Shri Sonavane: Is there any fund available as a Development Fund out of the earnings of these airports?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The earnings are a very small fraction of what we are spending every year on them.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, does the development of the Palam airport include the improvement of the village nearby? Does it include the improvement of the sanitary condition of this village which is very bad?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The immediate works at Palam are, provision of electric supply from the mains at a cost of Rs. 1,07,325, and this work is in progress, and then the construction of a wireless receiving station at a cost of Rs. 1,77,000, and this work will be undertaken in 1951-52.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will something be done to improve the sanitary condition of the village near-by?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Soya Bean Milk

*1356. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation was being carried at the Food Technological Laboratory of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, regarding Soya Bean Milk; and

(b) if so, what are the results?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes; investigations regarding soyabean milk were carried out in the Biochemistry Department of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore from 1946 to 1949.

(b) The soyabean milk prepared according to the method developed as a result of the investigations was assessed at 85 to 90 per cent. of cow's milk in nutritive value.

Food Conference at Bombay

*1357. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the main points of decision arrived at regarding food problem for 1951 at the Food Conference, Bombay, held on or about 11th December, 1950;

(b) the target of import of food grains for 1951; and

(c) the names of deficit States with the quantity of estimated deficit cereals for each such State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A copy of the Resolution passed at the Food Ministers' Conference held at Bombay on 11th to 13th December 1950 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 16.]

(b) The target of imports for 1951 is 3·7 million tons.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 17.]

Shri Kshudiram Mahata: In view of the fact that the total demand of the deficit States is about six million tons, what is the main reason for the Government's arriving at the figure of 3·7 million tons for imports?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The limitation is imposed by the availability of foreign exchange.

Prof. Ranga: Sir, how is it that between 11th December and 11th February the estimate of India's need for import of foodgrain has gone up from 3·7 million tons to about 6 million tons as was stated either by the Press

or by the hon. Minister himself in the House?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Six million tons is the loss which has accrued to us during the last six months. The amount required by the States is also about 6 million tons. What we are going to purchase is 3·7 million tons. We are considering the question whether this should not be raised a little more, to the neighbourhood of about 4 million tons, if that is possible.

Shri Sidhva: With reference to the Statement placed on the Table of the House, may I know what was the demand of the Government of Bombay and how much has the Central Government promised to give them?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Bombay's demand was for one million tons and 7,00,000 tons were given in the basic plan.

Shri Sidhva: Why was not the full amount granted? Was it because the figures given by Bombay were not correct, or is it the intention to give the balance later on?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It all depends on availability. If we get only about 3·6 million tons, we cannot give more than 700,000 tons.

Shri Bharati: Sir, what is the basis for the allocations in respect of the different States? What is the principle behind the allocation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The demand for each State is arrived at by deducting the quantity it expects to procure locally from the quantity estimated to be its requirement for meeting its commitments.

Shri Kamath: Arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question, is there any truth in the press report appearing in this morning's papers that the hon. Minister had told an American press correspondent that the Central reserve is completely exhausted?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is the American correspondent's paraphrase of what I stated, namely on the 1st January 1950 our reserves were 1·5 or 1·6 million tons and that we had eaten one million tons of it and the balance was 700,000 tons on the 1st January for the pipeline from the Centre.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether a target has been fixed for internal procurement of foodgrains and what steps are taken for the realisation of the target?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri Tyagi: Was the statement made for American consumption or India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri M. L. Gupta: With reference to part (c) of the question Hyderabad's demand has been 160,000 tons. May I know how much allocation has been made to Hyderabad?

Shri K. M. Munshi: 75,000 tons.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the hon. Minister clarify the point as to how this allocation is made to different States, in view of the fact that the quantity rationed in different States varies from seven to twelve ounces? In view of these glaring differences in the quantities of rations, how are the allocations made to different States?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the directions of the Central Government are concerned the cut is uniform throughout the country. No doubt before that time varying quantities of rations were issued in different States.

Shri Bharati: What was the demand made by the Madras State and how much was allotted to it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Madras demanded 700,000 tons and what was given was 400,000 tons.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Arable Land in Vindhya Pradesh

*1358. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how many pieces of waste arable land available for cultivation have been discovered in Vindhya Pradesh by Government?

(b) Are they available to private enterprise?

(c) What are the conditions, and facilities, if any, for getting any such plots of land?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Apart from lands held by tenants in their holdings, there are 29,29,167 acres of waste arable land in Vindhya Pradesh, of which, 1,00,577 acres are in 264 compact blocks of 100 acres and above.

(b) and (c). The lands are available to private enterprise for cultivation. For reclaiming and bringing the lands under cultivation, the following concessions are allowed in respect of rent for the land:

(i) First two years	.. No rent.	per acre.
(ii) 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th year	-/8/-	
(iii) 7th year	/-/10/-	
(iv) 8th year	-/12/-	
(v) 9th year	-/14/-	
(vi) 10th year	.. Full settlement rates.	

Further, taccavi loans repayable in easy instalments are granted for reclamation by tractors, sinking of new wells, construction of paddy bunds and *rabi* embankments, construction and repair of tanks, and purchase of bullocks, *rehats*, and improved seeds and manure.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if any pieces of such land have been given to applicants this year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. The scheme is to be finalised yet.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it a fact that areas of land as big as 12,000 acres are lying uncultivated up to this time?

Shri Thirumala Rao: All this land lies in the Malwa area and to bring the lands under cultivation the Malwa Development Board has been constituted. There are various kinds of lands there—those belonging to Government, Jagirdars and Zamindars. All these lands have to be brought under the control of Government by agreement with the Jagirdars and Zamindars. All these schemes are being finalised and then only the lands can be allotted.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if some sort of cultivation is going to be done at Government level?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government is not undertaking any such thing.

Shri Dwivedi: How long will it take to bring these lands under cultivation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Malwa Development Board was constituted in June 1950 and when all the formalities are finalised the operations can begin.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: When Government start these schemes, do they propose to start them on a co-operative basis?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, in certain areas where cooperative schemes are feasible. They are also trying to bring them into existence?

Lala Achint Ram: Is any land being allotted to refugees also?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No allotment has yet been made. When it is made their claims will also be considered.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Was any land brought under cultivation in 1949-50 and if so how much?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have said that it has not yet begun.

Dr. Parmar: Have any details been collected of the waste or arable land lying in different States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes. I can give the figures, if the hon. Member wants them.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know whether for the cultivable land, survey number is published in the local gazette for the information of the public and if so, how many plots of land have been given to Harijans in proportion to other communities?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No allotment has yet been made. All these things are being finalised.

Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee's Report

*1359. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Inquiry Committee's report published recently have been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken on them?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The recommendations of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee are still under consideration.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee will be discussed at the next meeting of the Transport Advisory Council to be held in April next and decisions will be taken thereafter.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the terms of reference of this Committee included also the nationalisation of transport?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. That was not a term of reference. The main term of reference was regarding the existing taxation of motor vehicles and recommendations to bring about some degree of rationalisation and uniformity in the principles of taxation.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recommendation of the Committee as regards transport coordination and regulation?

Shri Santhanam: They dealt with many ancillary matters. This is one of the matters they have dealt with in their report, a copy of which is available in the Library.

Shri Kamath: Has this report been so far placed before the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Transport?

Shri Santhanam: It will be placed first before the Transport Advisory Council consisting of representatives from all the States and the recommendations of the Transport Advisory Council will then be placed before the Standing Committee before the Ministry brings up any measure before the Parliament.

SUGAR

*1360. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the date on which instructions were issued to the Governments of the States about the new policy about sugar, declared in Parliament by the Minister in December 1950?

(b) Since when was sugar allowed to be sold through shops other than the ration shops in the cities of Bombay, Kanpur, Delhi, Gwalior and Indore?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) 7th December 1950 and further on 3rd January 1951.

(b) There was no ban even previously on the sale of sugar through shops other than the ration shops in any of the towns mentioned. In Delhi however, such sale was prohibited from 15th November 1950. This ban was withdrawn from 12th December 1950.

Shri Ghule: May I know whether for Delhi special instructions were issued on the 15th November and for the other States they were issued on the 7th December? What was the reason for sugar being sold in Delhi from the 15th November?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Later a uniform policy was promulgated on the 12th December.

Shri Ghule: Are Government aware that except in Delhi where sugar is coming in very large quantities other States are not getting so much sugar for sale? What is the reason for Delhi getting so much quantity of sugar?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Delhi is surrounded by areas where there is a large number of factories.

Shri Ghule: Are these factories allowed to send their sugar for sale in Delhi?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They are not allowed: but still somehow it comes.

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Are Government aware that all the sugar allowed to be sold through free sales goes into the black market and that forward contracts for sale of this free sugar are being entered into at Rs. 50 per maund?

Shri Thirumala Rao: People who have got last year's stock are bringing it out for sale. Whether in black or white market, it is available.

Shri T. N. Singh: Have Government tried to make any estimate of the quantity of hidden sugar that has come out in the open market following the order of 7th December?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have not got any estimate of that.

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Are Government aware that forward contracts at Rs. 50 per maund have been made even now for sugar which is given for free sales to factories?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any public transaction at such a high price.

Shrimati Renuka Ray *rose*—

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Will Government make enquiries about it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shrimati Ray.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: May I ask what is the total quantity that has been supplied by factories, which was to be supplied before free sales were to be allowed? Also whether the full amount has been supplied? Otherwise, how is it that there are free sales in Delhi today?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The sales in Delhi are from stocks unsold from the last year's allotment. No such allotment has been made to mills from this year's production so far.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 1362.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I raise a point of order on this, Sir? In regard to part (b) of this Question, is it permissible now, in view of the present international situation, that we may know where our telephone workshops are situated?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is hardly a point of order. It is for the hon. Minister to say.

AUTOMATIC TELEPHONES (MANUFACTURE)

*1362. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether all machineries, equipments and accessories required for telephone exchanges and for conversion of exchanges with operators into automatic systems of telephone are now manufactured in India?

(b) If so, where are the workshops?

(c) If not, are Government taking any step to encourage or promote such manufactures?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) No.

(b) and (c). The Posts and Telegraphs Workshops at Calcutta, Jabalpur and Bombay are manufacturing certain telephone equipment and the Government of India have also established a factory at Bangalore for the manufacture of automatic telephone and carrier equipment. This factory has started manufacture of some of the automatic telephone equipment but when it goes into full production which is expected to take about three years India will become self-sufficient in the matter of telephone equipment.

Dr. M. M. Das: Which are the Cities of India whose telephone systems are proposed to be converted into automatic system?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I submit, Sir, the question does not arise out of this.

FOOD GRAIN SUBSIDIES

*1363. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are going to provide food grain subsidies to State Governments for big cities only and not for rural areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Under the revised scheme subsidy will be confined to grain sold in certain industrial and urban areas only.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know the reasons for this arrangement?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The reason is that subsidy was given at one time because the price of foreign foodgrains was very much higher than indigenous foodgrain prices. Now what has happened is that the price of indigenous food grains is much higher than that of foreign grains with the result that subsidy on that would be really illogical. Secondly, the subsidy was unevenly distributed in several areas in the country—for instance, Delhi, Bombay, Ajmer, etc. So, the attempt is now made to distribute the amount which was so far given as a subsidy to these areas only. If the subsidy was extended to the whole country, the burden would be in the neighbourhood of over Rs. 40 crores which, of course, the Central Exchequer was not able to bear.

Shri T. N. Singh: Have Government given any food subsidy for commitments of rural areas which have arisen in certain States as a result of the scarcity conditions?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, as a matter of fact, as I have pointed out, indigenous foodgrains are sold in the rural areas at a higher price. Therefore, it is not proper that imported foodgrains should be sold at a much cheaper price.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether it is a fact that certain of the State Governments have indicated their disapproval of the scheme?

Shri K. M. Munshi: They have.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether at yesterday's conference of Chief Ministers this subject was discussed and whether any decision was arrived at?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, no decision has been arrived at—the matter was discussed.

Shri Sivan Pillay: May I know whether the Government propose to consider differently for purposes of Central subsidies, deficit States which produce less than 50 per cent. of their needs for internal procurement?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No. I don't think that is correct.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that in scarcity areas the State Governments are supplying foodgrains at cheaper prices than the market rates, and may I know whether for that reason Government has considered their case for grant of subsidy?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as deficit areas are concerned, the States can supplement the subsidy by giving grants from their own funds.

Shri T. N. Singh: I was referring to scarcity areas, not deficit areas.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Originally the subsidy was given on the whole

quantity of imported grain. Now it is given only in selected areas. That quantity of foodgrain which is consumed in that area is subsidised and sold at a lower cost. As regards the rest of the country, it would be the market price.

Shri Chattopadhyay: Sir, I have not been able to follow one answer correctly. Am I to understand that the hon. Minister said that the price of imported grains is for the present less than the price ruling in the country?

Does it include the price of paddy and rice also?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Not about paddy.

Shri Chattopadhyay: And rice?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am going to the next question.

LOCAL DELIVERY MAILS

*1364. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the amount of loss Government have suffered due to reduction in the price of postcards and letters for local delivery?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): The revenue from the sale of postage stamps and postcards has increased. The excess till the end of December 1950 over the revenue for the same period in 1949 is Rs. 29·41 lakhs.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अभी किन किन स्थानों पर यह लोकल डिलीवरी का प्रबन्ध है, और जहां यह प्रबन्ध है वहां पर अगर रेवेन्यू बढ़ी है, तो क्या और जगहों पर भी इस का प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** At what places the arrangements for local delivery still exist, and if the revenue has increased at those places, are there any proposals to introduce it in other places as well?]

श्री किदवाई : इस का प्रबन्ध तो हर जगह पर है। जहां पर कोई साहब लोकल लेटर्स डालना चाहें वह डाल सकते हैं।

[**Shri Kidwai:** Such arrangements already exist everywhere. Any person can post local letters anywhere.]

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: In view of the experience gained by the Government that the income from stamps has increased due to reduction in postal fares for local letters, are they considering any proposal to reduce the stamp rates throughout the country even on non-local postage?

Shri Kidwai: I have not claimed that on account of reduction in local delivery rates the revenue has increased. I have only given the figures. Because there were no local rates in previous years, comparison is not possible.

Shri T. N. Singh: Has there been any corresponding increase in expenditure also?

Shri Kidwai: Bound to be!

SUMS PAID TO NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

*1365. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether the sum of Rs. 25 lakhs which was paid per year to His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad in respect of the perpetual lease of the four ceded districts of Berar under the old treaties is still being paid to the Nizam?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): No.

RAILWAY STOCKS (DISTRIBUTION)

*1367. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether or not all disputes arising out of the distribution of Railway Stocks between Pakistan and India have been finally settled?

(b) Is any portion of India's share of Stocks still in possession of Pakistan?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the book value of such stock?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No.

(b) Yes, but a portion of Pakistan stock is also in our possession.

(c) The information is not readily available.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What is the value of the stock held by India and the value of stock held by Pakistan?

Shri Gopalaswami: That information is not readily available as the original records relating to the procurement of the stock are in a majority of cases still in Pakistan.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What are the causes for which the transfers are not being effected?

Shri Gopalaswami: There has been some amount of delay. They are delaying the restoration of some stock.

Some of their stock is still with us. That has to be adjusted over a period of time.

Shri A. C. Guha: How much of the stocks held in Pakistan are expected to be received back in working condition?

Shri Gopalaswami: I shall be able to give that information after I receive them.

EXTENSION OF RAILWAYS

*1368. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the total length of Railways in miles extended during the period from 15th August 1947 to 15th August 1950?

(b) What were the Railway administrations which were responsible for the extension in mileage and at what cost was it done?

(c) Is there any future programme of extension already in hand?

(d) If so, what is the total mileage involved?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Railway lines were extended by approximately 422 miles during the period from 15th August, 1947 to 15th August, 1950.

(b)

	Cost.
E. P. Railway 34·85 miles	Rs. 115·71 lakhs
G. I. P. Railway 43·95 miles	Rs. 65·14 ,,
Rajasthan Ry. 51·20 miles	Rs. 19·35 ,,
N S. Railway. 76·31 miles	Rs. 88·88 ,,
Jaipur St. Ry. 37·49 miles	Rs. 120·78 ,,
Saurashtra Ry. 35·59 miles	Rs. 31·19 ,,
Assam Rail Link 142·51 miles	Rs. 853·17 ,,
Total	Rs. 1294·22 lakhs.

The cost figures are for the whole construction and not for the part mileage only opened for traffic during this period.

(c) Yes.

(d) 236·61 miles are under construction and 312·26 miles are proposed to be taken up during 1951-52

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Have the future programmes of development been referred to the Planning Commission for coordinating the extension of Railways with the development of industry, trade and commerce?

Shri Santhanam: As the hon. Member knows, the so-called six year plan was scrutinised by the Planning Commission. But this is the current programme which has been decided during the last few years when the Planning Commission was not in existence.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether Government have received any representation from Travancore-Cochin State and the nearby districts for the extension of the railway line from Tirunelveli to Cape Comerin?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. We have received representations and representations were also made to me personally when I was there on tour. But this line will have to wait for its turn.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether any new lines were constructed in South India in 1950-51 and whether any will be taken up in 1951-52?

Shri Santhanam: In 1950-51 a small line of 17 and odd miles was taken up in South India and this will be completed in 1951-52. One or two lines for restoration will also be taken up in 1951-52.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether the survey for the extension of the line from Tirunelveli to Cape Comerin will be taken in hand?

Shri Santhanam: Not now.

Seth Govind Das: In view of the fact that the Planning Commission has come into existence now, are Government thinking of referring these railway development schemes to the Planning Commission and then make them final?

Some Hon. Members: Speak in Hindi please.

Seth Govind Das: Mr. Santhanam will not be able to follow Hindi.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's question has been already answered.

Seth Govind Das: In view of the fact that the Planning Commission has now come into existence, I want to know whether Government are proposing to refer this matter to it.

Mr. Speaker: I think the reply of the hon. Minister was that these are normal things which are not referred to the Planning Commission.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: May I ask the hon. Minister when the line between Shoranur and Nilambur, which is to be reinstated, will be taken up?

Shri Santhanam: We propose to start the restoration in 1951-52.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know when Government propose to take up the construction of the Quilon-Ernakulam line?

Shri Santhanam: We have ordered the survey and we shall await the survey report.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know whether Government have any intention to resume the work on the Bijuri-Parwadih line?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

PATHANKOT AIR CRASH (ENQUIRY)

*1369. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Committee inquiring into the Pathankot Air Crash has been received;

(b) if so, what are its findings and conclusions;

(c) whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) if the reply to part (a) is in the negative, when the Committee is likely to submit its report?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (b). The Court of Inquiry has not yet reported.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Probably by about the end of March 1951.

Shri Kamath: Has, Sir, the recording of evidence and the examination of the wreckage by technicians or other experts either here or in England been completed?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The only thing that is delaying the submission of the report is that we have not yet received from the U.K. the report about the examination of the parts which were sent there. The report is expected to be received by the end of this month.

Shri Kamath: When were the parts sent to England, Sir?

Shri Khurshed Lal: One batch was sent on the 3rd October 1950 and another on the 22nd November 1950.

Shri Kamath: How many experts were brought over from England to examine the wreckage here?

Shri Khurshed Lal: There was only one foreign expert associated with the enquiry.

Shri Kamath: Was it considered necessary after the examination here that further examination of the parts should be done in England?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Obviously so. Otherwise, these parts would not have been sent to England.

Shri Kamath: To whom were these parts sent?

Shri Khurshed Lal: To the Director of Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

EAST UTTAR PRADESH SUGAR FACTORIES

*1370. **Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special officer was appointed to study the efficiency of sugar factories and suggest ways and means, whereby the East Uttar Pradesh sugar factories might be profitably distributed from their present crowded positions;

(b) whether the officer has made any suggestions in this connection; and

(c) whether Government are considering the question with regard to the crowded position of East Uttar Pradesh sugar factories?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes. A special officer was appointed by the Uttar Pradesh Government in 1945. He has since retired and settled in U.K. He has not yet submitted his complete report.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Yes. Government of India are considering the question not only in respect of factories in Uttar Pradesh, but also in respect of factories in Bihar in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that one of the proposals made to make these factories more economic is for greater use of the by-products and the manufacture of power alcohol, and have these factories started this type of utilisation of the by-products?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No final decision has been reached about these matters. I cannot answer piecemeal questions.

Shri T. Husain: May I know if it is a fact that there are many factories which are not getting sugar cane and this is the reason why there is a shortage of sugar production in this country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It need not be answered. He is giving information.

WHEAT RECEIVED UNDER INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

*1371. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:—

(a) the total quantity of wheat shipments which arrived in India after the 1st January 1951 from the U.S.A. and Canada under the International Wheat Agreement; and

(b) the quantity of wheat promised by or expected shortly from these countries under the same agreement?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) U.S.A. 27,335 tons.

Canada 55,411 tons.

(b) U.S.A. about 522,937 tons.

Canada about 241,089 tons.

Shri Sivaprakasam: In view of the new arrivals of food, do Government propose to restore the recent cut in the ration?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Nothing can be done in view of expected arrivals.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that Government is expecting one food ship per day during the next few weeks?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Provided shipping position is easy, we hope to get one food ship a day.

Shri Kamath: What is the position today?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are getting 1·6 food ships a day.

ARANTANGI-KARAIKUDI RAILWAY LINE

*1372. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the work for the extension of Railways from Arantangi to Karaikudi on the S. I. Railway has been started?

(b) If so, what is the progress so far made?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) A notification authorising the Madras Government to acquire lands for the construction of this line on behalf of the Central Government has been issued. Arrangements are being made to start the earthwork as soon as possession of the land is obtained. The work on major bridges is in hand and the progress so far made is 20 per cent. Arrangements are in hand for commencing the work on minor bridges as well.

Short Notice Question and Answer

CUT IN FOOD RATION

Shri Tyagi: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which a reduction of ten to twenty-five per cent of food rations has been effected in the rationed areas; and

(b) the present stocks in hand and the amount of food grains expected to be imported?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The House is aware of the successive natural calamities we have had since July 1950. During the last few months, the distribution system in most of the States has been facing a severe strain and subsisting on a ship to mouth basis. Breakdowns have occurred in some areas. As compared with the stocks held by the States on 1st January, 1950 there has been a reduction to the extent of about 9 lakh tons on the 1st January 1951. Owing to shipping difficulties it has been found impossible to bring into the country sufficiently large quantities to meet the demands for current consumption and for building up adequate stocks, although arrivals of imports even under the present difficulties, are much larger than during the corresponding period of last year. To avoid breakdown and to rehabilitate the stocks, it was decided to reduce temporarily the overall quantum of the ration to 9 ozs.

One of the important considerations which has led the Government to this decision is the meagreness of the rice availabilities. The internal availability of rice has been considerably reduced by drought in the rice surplus areas. The stocks of wheat and millets are low and the imports of wheat and milo during the next two months will not be enough to make good the 12 ozs. ration. Therefore, if the ration was not reduced, the deficit could only be made good from rice stocks which form the bulk of the procurement in these months and

during the period July to October, we should have had to face a serious rice shortage in the country.

(b) On the 1st of January 1951, the total Government stocks amounted to over 7 lakh tons. On the 1st of February the stocks amounted to 8·8 lakh tons. As a result of the reduction in the scale of ration it is expected that the stocks will amount to about 12 lakh tons by the end of March 1951 providing a margin against the difficulties of the lean months which must follow. Estimated arrivals of foodgrains from abroad during February are 2·92 lakh tons, during March 3·22 lakh tons and during April 2·72 lakh tons. March and April figures are not complete and are expected to improve.

Shri Tyagi: May I know from which countries are the Government importing foodgrains?

Shri K. M. Munshi: From Australia, Canada, U.S.A., Argentina, Uruguay, Thailand, Burma and China.

Shri Tyagi: Why not from Pakistan where the wheat is selling at Rs. 7 to 8 per maund?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As soon as imports are available from there we shall consider about it.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether any negotiations have been made with Pakistan with a view to getting wheat from that country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The hon. Member must have seen from the papers that certain exploratory talks have taken place.

Shri Tyagi: By which date does the hon. Minister expect to restore the cut in rations?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It depends upon the length of the negotiations.

Shri Tyagi: How is the constructive programme of improving agricultural conditions and improvement of land is going on in the country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am quite willing to say all that, but it will take some time.

Shri Kamath: With reference to the natural calamities mentioned by the hon. Minister, bearing in mind the happenings of the last ten or twenty years, which were the particular calamities that were not foreseen by Government or were not provided for by Government?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): Mr. Kamath putting questions!

Shri K. M. Munshi: I will enlighten the House. The floods in North Bihar during June—that is not normal. Cyclone and heavy rains in parts of West Bengal in July—that is not normal. Earthquakes and floods in Assam in August—absolutely abnormal. Then floods in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, PEPSU and Kashmir in September: this is the first time so many States had visitations of this character. Drought in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Parts of West Bengal, Orissa, Vindhya Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh since mid-September: failure of the North-East monsoon affecting South Madras, Coorg, parts of Mysore, Hyderabad and Bombay.

Shri Kamath: During the last ten years, which particular year or years have been completely free from floods and drought in India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Tyagi: The Deputy Minister in one of his replies said that we are receiving 1.6 ships per day. May I know where is the 0.4 ship going?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will do well in not persisting in putting that question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that the hon. Minister made certain statements in the early part of January in Calcutta that there would be no difficulty as regards food supply in the subsequent two or three months?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I did not say that there will be no difficulty. What I said was that there would not be such scarcity as would lead to a crisis.

Shri A. C. Guha: How then, suddenly, within two or three months.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think we have sufficient information on this matter now.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Amravati-Narkhed Rail Link

***1361. Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of railway link between Amravati and Narkhed is proposed to be taken up in the next financial year; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to be taken up?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No.

(b) This line is not among the list of projects so far approved by the Central Board of Transport.

D. T. S. Bus Services

***1366. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that D.T.S. buses normally are not punctual in their services;

(b) whether the authorities have received any complaints in the matter; and

(c) if so, what steps have so far been taken in the matter?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) I regret it has not been possible to ascertain the precise degree of punctuality attained by the D.T.S. buses.

(b) Complaints in the matter have been received by the Delhi Road Transport Authority from time to time.

(c) I understand that the Authority is trying its best to maintain the regularity of the services. Among the steps taken are:

(i) provision of more vehicles,

(ii) improvement in facilities for maintenance and repairs of vehicles,

(iii) enforcement of discipline on the staff and

(iv) securing the aid of local Traffic Police whenever unusually heavy traffic congestions develop.

Allocation of Fertilizers

***1373. Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations of fertilizers made to various State Governments in the financial years 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) the basis on which these allocations are made and the system of distribution to the ultimate consumer; and

(c) whether it is obligatory on the part of the State Governments to mix a specified quantity of superphosphate with sulphate of ammonia and how far have the State Governments carried out this obligation and if not, why not?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Allocations are made to the State Governments only in respect of sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate. Previously the allocations were made according to the Fertiliser year from July to June. From 1950, however, they are being made according to the calendar year. Statements of allocations of Sulphate of Ammonia and superphosphate from July, 1949 to December, 1950 are placed on the Table of the House. (*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 18.)

(b) Allocations are made on the basis of the requirements indicated by the State Governments, keeping in view the availability of material. The State Governments make their own arrangements for the distribution to the ultimate consumers. The system adopted varies in different States. It is through State Depots, Co-operative Societies or Private Agencies on commission basis.

(c) No. The State Governments are, however, advised to use sulphate of ammonia in conjunction with superphosphate. The proportion in the mixture varies according to soil and climatic conditions, nature of the crop, irrigation facilities, etc. The State Agriculture Department advises the cultivators regarding the correct proportion to be used in any particular areas and crop.

Purchase and Sale of Food Grains

***1374. Shri Deogirikar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the prices at which (i) wheat, (ii) rice, (iii) milo were purchased in U.S.A. in the year 1950; and

(b) the prices at which these articles were sold in Bombay and Madras States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The average f.o.b. prices at which wheat and milo were purchased from U.S.A. during 1950 were Rs. 11/12/- and Rs. 7/5/- per maund respectively. No rice was purchased from U.S.A. during the year.

(b) A statement showing the average wholesale issue prices of wheat and milo in Bombay and Madras States in 1950 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 19].

Postal Expenditure

***1375. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a

statement giving the following particulars:

(i) the regulations governing expenditure on the extension of developments of postal facilities, distinguishing between the amounts charged to capital account, and those charged to revenue account;

(ii) the present estimated capital cost of projects of Postal Services Development, including introduction of machinery or devices for Labour saving, now being implemented, and what will be the recurring cost for the same, when completed and in working order; and

(iii) when these projects are expected to be completed and be in working order?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (i), (ii) and (iii). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 20.]

LAND RECLAMATION IN ASSAM

***1376. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land that has been reclaimed in the State of Assam under Grow More Food Scheme;

(b) the expected yield of the land so reclaimed; and

(c) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government of India for the Grow More Food campaign in Assam since 1947?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 11,099 acres.

(b) 4,556 tons.

(c) During the years 1947-48 and 1948-49, the total expenditure incurred by the Government of India for the Grow More Food campaign in Assam was Rs. 17·25 lakhs. Figures of actual expenditure for the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 are not yet available.

AUTOMATIC TICKET MACHINES

***1377. Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that automatic ticket machines are to be installed at important G.I.P. Railway suburban stations and if so, when?

(b) What are the other Railways where these machines will be installed shortly?

(c) Is it a fact that these are designed on the type used at the London underground Railway stations?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes, as soon as the machines for which orders have been placed are delivered by the Firm.

(b) E. I. and S. I. Railways.

(c) Yes.

LOCUST CONTROL

***1378. Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that helicopters have been found useful in the supervision of locust control work and surveying locust infestations particularly in inaccessible places;

(b) if so, whether it is the intention of Government to employ these machines; and

(c) what are the countries from which those may be imported?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) The question of employing helicopters for locust work is under present examination.

(c) United Kingdom and United States of America.

EMERGENCY LANDING OF INDIAN DAKOTA IN EAST BENGAL

***1379. Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the statement published by the East Bengal Government on the 24th December 1950 contradicting the statement made by the Government of India on the 22nd December 1950, in reply to my Short Notice Question regarding emergency landing of an Indian Dakota plane in East Bengal; and

(b) whether the Enquiry Committee have completed its investigations into the causes and the casualties of this accident?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Government is not aware of any statement published by the East Bengal Government on the 24th December 1950 to contradict the statement made by me in the House on the 22nd December 1950 in reply to the Short Notice Question of the hon. Member regarding the emergency landing of an Indian Dakota in East Bengal.

However, in the *Hindustan Times* of December 26, 1950, there appeared a report dated Dacca, December 25 containing a Statement issued on the subject by the Government of East Bengal.

(b) Yes Sir. I may add that the House will remember that when I answered a Short Notice question on the 22nd December, 1950, I had stated that the information with me at the time was subject to verification. I now find that that information was incorrect in two particulars, namely, that the passengers were not immediately rushed to Tangail hospital, but the passengers and crew left the scene of forced landing for Porabari, a village two and a half miles from the site of forced landing, Messrs. Himatsingka and Mukherjee being carried on stretcher. On reaching Porabari some passengers left by hackney carriage and the remaining passengers and crew decided to spend the night in Mr. Saha's house in Porabari. There the condition of Messrs. Himatsingka and Mukherjee became serious and Mr. Himatsingka died at 8 P.M. and Mr. Mukherjee was taken in the Sub-Divisional Officer's jeep for Tangail hospital, where he was admitted and died at 10 P.M.

The other inaccuracy in my statement was that I had stated that another passenger and a member of the crew died in hospital at Dacca. But the fact is that they died in the hospital at Tangail on the afternoon of the 18th December, 1950.

LICENCES FOR AMATEUR BROADCASTING

***1380. Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences for amateur broadcasting have been granted in India;

(b) if so, the number of such licences granted during the year 1950;

(c) the number of licences renewed during the month of January, 1951;

(d) the number of persons to whom such licences have been granted in Mysore State; and

(e) the wave-lengths assigned for amateur broadcasting in India?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) No licences are given for amateur broadcasting, but licences are issued to amateurs for conducting experiments in the course of which only messages relating to the experiments may be transmitted. No private or commercial messages or entertainment programmes may be broadcast or transmitted under these licences.

(b) to (e). A statement giving the information asked for in respect of licences issued to amateurs for conducting experiments is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 21.]

RAJASTHAN UNDERGROUND WATER RESOURCES BOARD

***1381. Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred during the year 1950 by the Rajasthan Underground Water Resources Board;

(b) the number of wells sunk so far;

(c) the total output of water from all the wells;

(d) the estimated acreage irrigated by this supply; and

(e) the estimated food crops grown thereon?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a)

	Rs.
(i) 1949-50. (6th December 1949 to 31st March 1950)	48,659
(ii) 1950-51. (1st April 1950 to 8th November 1950)	81,525

(b) One open and 15 tubewells.

(c) 1,50,000 gallons per hour.

(d) and (e). The water made available can irrigate 750 to 1,000 acres of land, with a possible yield of 7,000 to 10,000 maunds of food crops. While the Rajasthan Water Board is concerned with the exploration of water resources, the utilization of this water is the function of the Rajasthan Government.

TOOFAN EXPRESS ACCIDENT (ENQUIRY)

***1382. Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the findings of the judicial enquiry conducted about the train disaster that took place on the E.I.R. between Karmanasa and Durgawati in the early hours of the morning of the 13th August, 1950 and state:

(a) the cost that the Government of India had to incur in the course of this enquiry; and

(b) the names and designation of the judges and the assessors?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): Ten copies of the Report on the judicial enquiry have already been placed in the Library of the House.

(a) As the expenditure has not yet been fully incurred, it is not possible at present to specify the amount.

(b) The hon. Mr. Justice Bose, Judge, Calcutta High Court conducted the enquiry. Shri V. P. Bhandarkar,

retired Member, Transportation, Railway Board and Shri J. N. Nanda, retired General Manager, Nizam's State Railway were the Assessors.

FOOD POSITION IN BIHAR

*1383. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the latest food position in the State of Bihar;

(b) the aid that the Government of India have extended to that state; and

(c) the steps to be taken to avert the impending famine there?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The crops have failed on account of drought and the general price level is high.

(b) The Government of India have promised to supply 6,00,000 tons of foodgrains in 1951 to Bihar.

(c) (i) Special steps have been taken to ensure prompt movement of foodgrains to the State as well as within the State of Bihar.

(ii) The Grow More Food Campaign has been intensified. Total sum to be spent in Bihar on Grow More Food Scheme is Rs. 2·14 crores which will be shared as follows:

75 per cent. of food bonus earned by Bihar.		1·10
Government of India	...	1·02
Government of Bihar	...	1·02
Total	...	2·14

(iii) Distribution of food by Government is being steadily increased. The number of Government ration shops is now about 1965 covering a population of 7·3 millions.

BEGGING ON RAILWAY PLATFORMS

97. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether begging by lepers on Railway platforms has been banned by law;

(b) if so, how far the restriction is practically observed; and

(c) if no such bans are in existence, whether Government contemplate to impose such restrictions in the best interests of the public or not?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The general rules framed in exercise of powers conferred by section 47 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, prohibit, *inter alia*, any person, whether in possession of a ticket or not, from begging or soliciting alms, subscriptions or charity in any part of railway premises or trains. Anyone acting in disregard to this rule is liable to be removed from a station platform or any part of railway premises.

(b) Railway staff do endeavour to enforce observance of the rule, generally with success.

(c) Does not arise in view of the answers to parts (a) and (b) above.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 13th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ADULTERATION OF FOODSTUFFS

*1384. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage the question of Central legislation for regulating the Control of adulteration of foodstuffs on a uniform basis throughout the Country is pending; and

(b) the probable time by which such legislation is likely to be put through?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) A tentative draft Bill for the prevention of adulteration of foodstuffs is ready and will shortly be circulated to all State Governments for their views.

(b) Every effort will be made to introduce necessary legislation at an early date.

Shri Raj Kanwar: In view of the great urgency and importance of the problem of control of adulteration of foodstuffs, and the fact that adulteration of foodstuffs is being practised more and more daily, what special steps do Government propose to take to ensure the earliest passage of the proposed legislation?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Acts do exist in all the States and the State Governments try to enforce them as far as they can. In order to have uniformity of procedure a draft Bill, as I said, is ready and will be shortly circulated. We shall endeavour to bring it before the House as quickly as possible.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the number of cases of adulteration of foodstuffs brought to trial and which ended in conviction during the past one or two years.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I would like to have notice of that question.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्राणीजी को यह बात मालूम है कि जहां तक घी का सम्बन्ध है घी में वनस्पति तेल दिनों दिन ज्यादा मिलता जा रहा है और क्या जो केन्द्रीय सरकार का मत प्रान्तीय सरकारों को जा रहा है उसमें वनस्पति के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ कहा गया है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is the hon. Minister aware that so far as *ghee* is concerned its adulteration with *Vanaspati* oil is daily on the increase and does the reference being made by the Central Government to the Provincial Governments contain any mention of *Vanaspati*?]

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : जी हां, उसमें वनस्पति का खास नाम तो शायद नहीं लिया गया होगा, लेकिन एक चीज़ पर लागू होगा ।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Yes, Sir. It may not possibly have mentioned *Vanaspati* specifically but, then, this law is going to apply to all things.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the maximum punishment provided in the new legislation for an offence of this kind?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He may wait for the legislation.

LEPERS

*1385. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to reply to starred question No. 1326 asked on 8th April, 1948 and state:

(a) if the total number of lepers in the country is now available; and

(b) what arrangements other than those given in the reply to the above question have come into existence for the care, treatment, segregation etc. of lepers throughout the country and especially in places where they are found in large numbers?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No statistics of leprosy patients based on any systematic survey are available. The number has been estimated to be roughly about 12 lakhs by an expert committee which was appointed recently by the Government of India to advise them on the steps to be taken to establish a Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 22.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: When is the proposal to start a Central Leprosy Research Institute likely to materialise?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As soon as finances are made available to the Health Ministry.

Shri Raj Kanwar: From the statement, a copy of which I have received, it appears that an advisory committee was appointed in November 1948 to consider the question of location of the Institution and other allied matters. Although more than two years have since elapsed, even the question of location of the Institute has not yet been settled. May I know what are the reasons for not settling even the question of location.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Committee recommended that the Leprosy Home already existing in Chingleput should be the Central Institute and the Government of India accepted that proposal. But the Madras Government are not willing to give that Institute to the Central Government unless the Government of India undertake the entire expenditure of the Institute which they are not prepared to do.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the estimated cost of the proposed Central Institute?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Government of India had estimated Rs. 10 lakhs to begin with; but, as I have said, no finances are available for new schemes.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know, Sir, whether the World Health Organisation is helping us in any way in this direction?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir. Not at the moment.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know how many leper asylums have been started by the missionaries in India: are they subsidised by the Government, if not why not?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As far as I know, the Governments of the various States do help the mission hospitals and clinics for leprosy which exist in the various States.

Shri Tyagi: Is the Government taking any advantage of the census operations that are going on these days in the matter of enumerating the lepers and the disabled in the country?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not aware that we are doing so.

Shri A. C. Guha: Can the hon. Minister tell us how the lepers are distributed province-wise? Which province has the largest number?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not give you the exact figures; but the largest incidence of leprosy exists in the provinces of Madras, Orissa, C.P. and Bombay.

Shri Alagesan: May I know what progress has been made in the direction of establishment of a Central Leprosy Research Institute?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have already replied in full to that question.

Prof. Ranga: What do the Government of India propose to do now that the Government of Madras placed their institute at their disposal? Do they not want to start anything of their own at all?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We are doing research in various States. Bombay has taken it up; we are considering doing something in the C.P. also. It is all a question of availability of finance.

INCOME-TAX FROM MERGED STATES

*1386. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state in how many of the merged States, no Income-tax was previously collected?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 23.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Have Government taken any steps to introduce income-tax in all these States.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. Income-tax was introduced in these States in accordance with the Merged States Taxation Concession Order, 1949, a copy of which was laid on the Table of the House on the 15th December 1949.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have there been any cases of tax-evaders taking shelter in those States before this order was passed and if so how are Government going to tackle those cases?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not aware of any cases of tax evasion, Sir.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the income-tax policy of Government in regard to such parts of B States which have now been merged in Part C States like Vindhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This order that I referred to apply to all merged territories, including those which now form part of Part C States.

Shri Munavalli: What is the amount of income-tax received by the Government since the Income-tax Act came into force in these merged areas, where income-tax was not previously collected?

Mr. Speaker: It is too early to ask for these figures. It was in 1949 that the income-tax was extended to these areas.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that some parts of Part A States also have merged in Part C States, e.g., some parts of Uttar Pradesh in Vindhya-Pradesh? What will be the policy of Government with regard to taxation of those portions of Part A States which have now been transferred to Part C areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not in a position to say that now.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Are Government aware that some High Courts in Part C States have held that income-tax cannot be levied for the year 1949-50 in these States? In view of this, do Government intend to modify their policy?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: My attention has not been drawn to any such High Court rulings. I shall enquire and find out if there is any such ruling and examine what action is required.

OFFICERS BROUGHT FROM OTHER STATES

*1387. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of officers in the Government of India brought from different States?

(b) What is the difference of pay between what they are getting here and what they would have got had they been in the State Governments?

(c) How many of them are for more than two years, how many for more than three years and how many for more than five years?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) 184.

(b) It is not possible accurately to calculate in each case the difference between the pay any such officer would have drawn under the State Government and the pay he is drawing at present under the Government of India. Assuming that each such officer would, under his State Government have got at least the same pay as the officers immediately junior to him are now getting, a statement is being prepared and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

The salary of Secretaries to the Government of India is Rs. 4,000 per mensem for I.C.S. officers less the emergency cut of Rs. 500. All officers now holding such posts under the Government of India, would, if reverted to the State Governments, hold posts of Chief Secretaries, Financial Commissioners, Members of Boards of Revenue, etc., carrying salaries varying between Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 3,750 per mensem.

The salary of Joint Secretaries to the Government of India is Rs. 3,000 per mensem less the emergency cut of Rs. 250. The officers holding such posts would, in their States, be holding posts of Commissioners on a pay of Rs. 3,000 per mensem or Secretaries to the State Governments on Rs. 3,000 per mensem in Bombay, Rs. 2,750 in West Bengal and on their grade pay plus a special pay of Rs. 250 per mensem in most other States.

Deputy Secretaries to the Government of India drawn from the different State Cadres generally get their grade pay in the time-scale plus a special pay of Rs. 400 per mensem. Such officers if serving in a State Government will presumably be in the State Secretariat on their grade pay plus a special pay generally of Rs. 200 per mensem.

The pay of Under Secretaries to the Government of India drawn from the State Cadres is fixed in the scale of Rs. 800 to 1,150. In their own State they would be drawing grade pay in their time-scale plus a special pay in the range of Rs. 100 to 200 per mensem if serving in the State Secretariat.

(c) More than 5 years ...	62
More than 3 years but less than 5 years ...	43
Less than 3 years but more than two years ...	18

Shri A. C. Guha: Are I.C.S. officers included in the number given?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Oh, yes. I have tried to give answers as fully as I possibly could even though the answer thereby got too long.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it possible to know the number of officers drawn from each Province?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have a long tabulated list here. It will take some time if I read it. If the hon. Member would enquire of a particular State I shall be able to give the information.

Mr. Speaker: I think the list may be laid on the Table, if there is no objection.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir, I shall place it on the Table.

Shri Kamath: Do the figures show how many officers borne on the Central Cadre have been loaned to the various States, particularly Part B States, during the last three years?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would like to have notice of such a question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any time limit for these officers who have been taken from the Provinces to stay here and go back to their Provinces?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There is a tenure period of five years. But during the last war due to the necessity of the situation and now, after the transfer of power, due to the fact that we lost a number of officers because they were British or because they went to Pakistan and the enormous increase of work of all kinds, this tenure rule could not be observed. And that is why we have these officers beyond the tenure terms—five years for some officers, four for some and three for some other officers. But the present arrangement with an Indian Central Administrative Cadre outside the State Cadres will give room for making a just arrangement by which there will be a continual rotation and a fair balance of officers with State experience as well as officers belonging to the Central Cadre working here.

Shri Tyagi: Since the Government took over from the British Government may I know whether any officer has been sent back to the State?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already stated that the situation created when we took over power and reorganized the Government left to us the alternative of losing the most experienced officers and replacing them by very inexperienced officers. That is the justification for maintaining most of them. I may not be quite accurate if I said that nobody was sent back. But if the hon. Member wants to have an absolutely correct answer I would like to have notice.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the extension of the tenure period and in view of the economy and retrenchment policy of the Government of India may I know whether the Government intend to send those officers back to the States—as many as they could?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The assumption made as to economy is not correct—with due deference. It is a question of efficiency and not at all of economy. As I have already stated, the problem has been under consideration from 1948 and has resulted in the constitution of the Indian Civil Administrative Central Services Cadre. According to the scheme which has now been accepted a Central Cadre will be constituted in addition to the State Cadres for manning a proportion of the posts under the Centre. The remaining posts will be manned by officers drawn from the State Cadres. The number of officers to be drawn is so fixed that the officers on deputation from the States may be regularly rotated on a strictly tenure basis.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are these officers getting any special pay simply because of their transfer from the Provinces to the Centre?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already said that the special pay is given in the case of officers working at the Secretariat headquarters whether it be in the State or at Delhi. The cost of living in a place like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras or Delhi is taken into account and a special pay has been fixed accordingly. It is not a new thing: it is a very old arrangement.

Shri Tyagi: Why are the States not given the benefit of the experience gained by the officers in the Centre?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think we are entering into an argument.

Shri Sarwate: May I know whether the officers who went from Part B States to the Centre went there with the consent of the Government concerned or without their consent?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Very much with their consent. In fact, sometimes, they send officers whom they do not want.

Shri Satish Chandra: From which State has the highest number of officers been drawn?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I said I will place the list on the Table of the House. That will furnish opportunity for every curious examination.

INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POPULATION CHANGES

***1388. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements are being made to initiate joint studies by the U.N. and the Government of India on the inter-relationship of economic, social and population changes; and

(b) if so, which areas have been selected for field enquiry?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Yes.

(b) A final decision has not yet been taken.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what would be the expenditure involved in the scheme and whether any part of it would be met by the United Nations?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The cost, so far as the Government of India have agreed to, is Rs. 82,200 towards the studies. The rest of the expenditure, including the salaries and allowances of the United Nations representative and his secretarial staff will all be borne by the United Nations. The field expenditure is ours. Roughly speaking, that is the analysis.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether as part of these arrangements some of the experts from the United Nations recently visited India and if so what progress has been made in this connection?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The representative who has come from the United Nations Organization is Dr. Chandrasekaran, who was Professor of Statistics in Calcutta in the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health. He recently arrived in November 1950 and much progress in a matter of this kind cannot be expected. The hon. Member will have to wait a little.

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY

***1389. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a machine tool factory exclusively for the Ministry of Defence; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure involved?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) A new factory is being set up which will, among other things, be capable of manufacturing machine tools primarily for defence factories.

(b) Does not arise.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know where is this factory to be located?

Major-General Himatsinhji: It is at Ambernath, near Bombay.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether this scheme has been undertaken in co-operation with any foreign firm or experts?

Major-General Himatsinhji: This scheme has been formulated in co-operation with a Swiss firm in Zurich, Oerlikons, and a contract has been made with this firm.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether plants necessary for the purpose will be made available from the Disposals Department or they are to be imported from outside?

Major-General Himatsinhji: We have been in consultation with the Commerce Department and the Industries Department and every facility is given to us to obtain any machinery which can be used for this purpose.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I know what is the estimated cost of this machine tool factory?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): May I, Sir, add for the information of the House that as far as this factory is concerned, no machines are available from disposals. The entire plant has been purchased from Switzerland.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: What is the estimated cost of this machine tool factory?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I am sorry I have got this information, but it is not considered advisable to give that information on grounds of...

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: In such a case, we have to intervene. The estimated cost cannot be a public secret. After all we have to vote for particular demands. I am not asking what kind of precision tools he is going to manufacture. I am only asking the estimate of cost.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let me hear the hon. Defence Minister.

Sardar Baldev Singh: What I said was that it would not be advisable to give the exact cost, but if the hon. Member is satisfied in having the approximate cost, the approximate cost when we started with this project was over Rs. 5 or 6 crores.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: In view of the fact that the I. & S. Ministry have started a machine tool factory in Mysore, may I know why it has not been found possible to have a single machine tool factory for all purposes?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The hon. Member will realize that as far as Defence requirements are concerned, the type of tools that are required for the manufacture of arms and ammunition is quite different.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any separate machine tool factory for the Defence purposes in Ambernath, and if so, what is the special purpose in starting this factory and not expanding that factory which is already in existence?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The hon. Member will read the reply which has been given by the Deputy Defence Minister. This factory at Ambernath is specially meant to manufacture the requirements of the Ordnance factory.

Shri Gautam: Is the construction of this factory going according to the schedule which was originally planned?

Sardar Baldev Singh: Yes, Sir.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer that the Defence machinery required is quite different from those required by the Industries Ministry, will the hon. Minister please state whether all such tools and machinery are of different types or only some, and whether these two could not be co-ordinated and worked on an economic basis?

Sardar Baldev Singh: If the tools required for the Ordnance factories are to be manufactured in any other factory, I say, they can be manufactured, but the cost of manufacture will be so high that it will not be economical. Therefore, it has been considered necessary to have a special machine tool factory to manufacture tools for the Ordnance factories.

Shri Tyagi: What are the terms of contract with the Ordnance factory?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether this factory will manufacture only specialized tools for Defence purposes, or will they manufacture in addition to these specialized tools other tools also, so that you get a complete factory?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I have not been able to follow the question of the hon. Member, but this machine tool factory will be manufacturing the special tools required for all the Ordnance factories.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Are not Oerlikons the same Engineers for both the machine tool factories to be established under the Industries Ministry and also the Defence Ministry?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say definitely, but I know this that the I. & S. Ministry were also carrying on negotiations with the same firm.

Mr. Speaker: I will go to the next question.

FELLOWSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS

*1390. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has offered 50 fellowship scholarships to India for the year 1951; and

(b) if so, the subjects for which they are offered?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) The subjects are:

Civil Aviation	3
Hydro-electric projects ...	4
High voltage transmission systems	2
Mining and Geology ...	4
Other subjects to be agreed upon between the two Governments	37
TOTAL ...	50

Prof S. N. Mishra: May I know whether our Government have also agreed to offer any scholarship to Australian students?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No such request has been received, although it is implicit in the Commonwealth Technical Co-operation Plan that if experts are available on our side, and if the request is received, then an attempt should be made to meet those requests.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what would be the valuation of all these fellowships and scholarships?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not possible to give a valuation of this because the branches in which the training is given differ very widely.

Shri Kamath: Has the White Australia policy in any way infected the Universities and the academies in the country, or are the Indian students going there treated on a footing of complete equality with the Australian students?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: From such information as I have, Sir, I am confident that our students will be treated on a footing of perfect equality.

Shri Venkataraman: Does the hon. Minister have any information whether the scholar who was sent from India to study Geo-physics in Australia has been asked to organize that Department in that country?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not aware that a scholar has yet been sent. The offer has lately been received and the various Ministries of the Government of India have been invited to suggest nominees for the 13 places which have been specifically named, and recently a Selection Board has met to choose the candidates for the 37 remaining scholarships.

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better go to the next question.

FIRE IN SADAR BAZAR, DELHI

*1391. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed by Government to inquire into the causes of the big fire that broke out in Sadar Bazar, old Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, what is the result of that inquiry?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). No Committee of inquiry was appointed by Government.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether Government have any information as to the loss sustained in this big fire and what was the reason for that fire?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As I said no Committee was appointed for making enquiry but a Committee was appointed under the Prime Minister's instructions to help the people who were in trouble and who had lost property and the estimate of the loss is about Rs. 30 lakhs. The Committee sat down immediately and arranged for the rehabilitation of the people for immediate relief as well as long-term relief. At an estimated cost of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs a market has been organized on the site. The ground floor alone cost nearly Rs. 5 lakhs.

Shri Sidhva: What is the decision of Government in that respect? Will they compensate to that extent?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is not intended that Government compensate for such accidental fires in private people's houses.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how many shops were insured?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I suggest notice should be given if any more information is wanted on the point of private insurance.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what progress has been made with regard to the task of construction of the market which the Prime Minister had entrusted to this Committee?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I think I would not be able to give answers about the present stage of the progress of the work, unless notice is given.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that the Prime Minister had directed this Committee to get this market reconstructed within six months or even lesser time and that although more time has already elapsed not much progress has been made?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is probable, but as I said a fresh notice may be given and a possible explanation may be available.

Shri Tyagi: You can consult your neighbour and say.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member should not go on talking in this way.

Lala Achint Ram: How many persons were affected by this fire and how many out of them were refugees?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There were 100 shops there as well as a few residential flats. The persons affected may be judged from that.

Lala Achint Ram: How many were refugees?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have no information on that point here.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in certain Press reports which appeared

at the time that the fire fighting apparatus was not quite efficient and that they took a long time even to collect enough water to put out the fire?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I think the charges are not correct, or are exaggerated. The cause of the fire was accident. Because electric supply failed at about 7-30 P.M., the men in the 100 shops and residential flats had to resort to carbide lamps and candles. The place was full of highly inflammable materials like celluloid, kerosene, etc. They tried to tackle with the fire, themselves for some time. But, later, at about 8-15 the fire brigade units were called and they were there at 8-17 P.M. More units were subsequently called from other stations and the fire was brought under control at 1-30 A.M. There has been no record or information that any failure was reported

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND CANALS

*1392. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether a branch of the International Commission on Irrigation and Canals has been opened in India?

(b) If so, who are its members?

(c) What are the long and short term projects that this Commission will handle?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) An International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage has been set up with the Central Office of the Commission (not a branch) located in India (New Delhi). The Central Board of Irrigation acts as the National Committee for this Commission.

(b) Eighteen nations namely Algeria, Egypt, Turkey, Switzerland, Brazil, Siam, France, Ceylon, Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Netherlands, Italy, Chile, United Kingdom, Iraq, Israel, Syria and India have joined this Commission as members.

(c) This Commission is not meant to handle any long and short term project as such. Its objectives as laid down in the Constitution are "to stimulate the development and application of the science and technique of irrigation and drainage in the engineering, economic and social aspects." I should like to add, Sir, that the original name "International Commission on Irrigation and Canals" was changed into "International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage" at the first formal business session of the Commission that was held here on 12th January last.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the cost of maintenance of the headquarters office in India will be borne by all these countries who are members proportionately, and if so what will be the cost to India?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The cost will be borne by all the participating countries. The exact figures have not yet been worked out.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the staff will be recruited from all the countries or whether any perference will be given to India and may I know what will be the position of India in regard to running the office?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The details have not been worked out. The International Executive Council of the Commission has been constituted and they will be soon looking into the matter.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether the Members of the Commission are going to visit the States, particularly parts of Assam affected by the Earthquake for the purpose of inspecting the drainage system there?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not say that offhand; but I do hope they will not neglect that very important State.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

*1393. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of displaced persons who have so far been given loans by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The total number of persons who have been sanctioned loans upto the 31st December, 1950, is 5396.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total amount of loan sanctioned?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Rs. 5,27,00,000.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the loans sanctioned by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration have all been drawn by the borrowers?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The amount actually disbursed is two crores, to 2,494 displaced persons.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that less than half of the amount has been disbursed, may I know why the borrowers could not draw the total amount?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: A variety of reasons. One is, some time has necessarily to elapse between the date of the sanction and the date on which the applicant can commence drawing the money after executing the necessary security documents and completing the essential formalities. Second, frequently, the guarantors offered by the applicants back out and the borrowers propose other guarantors about whose financial position, fresh enquiries have to be made. Thirdly, where a borrower has some funds of his own, he has to invest these in his business or industry before he can be permitted to draw on the Administration. Fourthly, in most cases, the displaced persons do not, and rightly so, enter into commitments regarding premises, etc., before they are sure of their finances They start arranging the preliminaries after they receive intimation of the sanction. This takes time. Fifthly, difficulties and delays are experienced by the borrowers in the matter of securing allotment of premises, electricity connection, permits and quota of controlled articles, etc. Sixthly, the Administration insists on payment of the loan in instalments, in most cases, the second instalment being payable after the first has actually been invested in the business or industry. Seventhly, in some cases, the applicants apply after the loan has been sanctioned for a change in some of the conditions of sanction of the loan and thus the actual drawal of the money is delayed. Lastly, in the absence of a reasonable degree of stability in the market prices of various commodities, some persons prefer to watch the trend of the market before venturing upon a new business and do not avail of the loan, rightly.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that displaced persons residing in far-off places like Mysore and Madras, etc., undergo tremendous difficulties in getting their loans disbursed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not aware of any special cases of hardship. There may have been some longer delays in those cases than in the case of displaced persons nearer the seat of Administration.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलायेंगे कि आर० एफ० ए० ने जो सिफारिश की है कि रिफ्यजीज से ट्रेड, कामर्स और बिजनेस के लिए लोन्स की नई दरख्वास्तें की जायेंगी उस के मुताल्लिक क्या फैसला किया गया है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at in regard to the recommendation made by the R.F.A. that fresh applications be invited from the refugees for loans in connection with trade, commerce and business?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : यह मुद्दत ठहराई गई थी १२, सितम्बर, १९४९। उसके बाद भी कुछ दरख्वास्तें ली गई हैं मसलन ईस्टर्न पाकिस्तान के शरणार्थियों से और जो नये देहात और शहर वगैरह बनाये जाते हैं उस के लिये भी कुछ दरख्वास्तें ली जा रही हैं।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The time-limit fixed was the 12th September, 1949. After that too some applications have been entertained as for instance, from the refugees from Eastern Pakistan, and some applications are also being entertained in respect of the new towns and villages that are being built.]

लाला अचित राम . जो सिफारिश थी आर० एफ० ए० की for inviting fresh applications, what steps have you taken.....

[**Lala Achint Ram:** As to the recommendation made by the R.F.A. for inviting fresh applications, what steps have you taken.....]

Mr. Speaker: What steps has "he" taken; he is addressing the Chair.

Lala Achint Ram: What steps has Government taken?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I could not follow the question, Sir?

Lala Achint Ram: The Advisory Committee of the R.F.A. recommended that Government should invite fresh applications for loan in regard to commerce and trade and that recommendation was accepted by the R.F.A., and that has been forwarded to the Government. I want to know what action Government has taken about that recommendation.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: What I said was that applications have been received after the last date from the classes of people I have mentioned

and presumably that is in accordance with the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee.

Lala Achint Ram: I am asking about the recommendation for inviting fresh applications.

Mr. Speaker: That is what he says.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, what is the amount sanctioned and disbursed to the displaced persons of East Bengal?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I have not got the figures here; I would require notice.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that these loans have been invariably granted to shopkeepers or traders or industrialists, and if so whether Government propose to widen the scope of the R.F.A. to include agriculturists, and if not, why not?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think that is limited by the provisions of the legislation.

Shri Sidhva: May I know if the Administration has made a suggestion to Government to reduce the rate of interest from 6 per cent. to 4½ per cent.? If so, have Government considered that proposal?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not aware of such a suggestion. It is possible it has been made, but it has not yet come up to me for decision.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: The hon. Minister has stated the reasons for the delay in giving the loans. But is he aware of the fact that even after the first instalment of the loan has been given, there is sometimes a great deal of delay in paying the second instalment? And will the hon. Minister find out what are the reasons for this delay?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall be very glad to enquire into such cases of delay.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Administration has recently advertised in West Bengal papers that a large sum of money is lying with them and that the applicants could not be traced? If so, what was the time lag between the date of application and the date of the money being ready for disbursement?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have explained the reasons for the delay between the sanction stage and the disbursement stage. So far as the delay between the date of application and the sanction is concerned, presumably it is related to the various preliminary enquiries which have to be made before a loan is sanctioned.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Sir, did the recommendation of the R.F.A. to include fresh applications from refugees include or cover the cases only of refugees from Eastern Pakistan, or did it include those from Western Pakistan as well; and if it covered the latter cases as well, have any fresh applications been received from these refugees?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I can only repeat that applications for loans are still being entertained from the following categories of displaced persons:

(a) those who migrated from Eastern Pakistan after the 12th September 1949 when application lists were generally closed;

(b) displaced industrialists who propose to settle in new townships and in special cases to those settling outside new townships.

Mr. Speaker: The question was whether the recommendation includes the displaced persons from Western Pakistan.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The second category does; it is not exclusive.

Mr. Speaker: Well, we go to the next question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, My question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: May be, but we are taking too long a time on each question.

Price of Gold

*1394. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the official price of gold in India per ounce in terms of British pound-sterling?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The official price of gold in India is Rs. 166·67, equivalent to £12-10-0 sterling per troy ounce of fine gold.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that because of the higher price of gold prevailing in India, attempts are being made to smuggle gold from Britain to this country?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter for inference and not a matter of getting information. Has the hon. Member any other question?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has any attempt been made to smuggle gold from Britain to this country?

Mr. Speaker: By whom?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: By Indians or Britishers?

Mr. Speaker: I don't think I will allow the question.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सत्य है कि जो कीमत मुकर्रर है सोने की उस पर सोना न वर्षों से बेचा जाता है न लिया जाता है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that for many years now gold has neither been bought nor sold at the rate fixed for it?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : बिल्कुल सत्य है ।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** That is perfectly true.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इस हालत में क्या माननीय अर्थमंत्री जो यह बतलायेंगे कि इस प्रकार कीमत मुकर्रर करने से क्या लाभ है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Under the circumstances will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what is the good of fixing a rate like that?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : यह इन्टरनेशनल मानिटरी फंड ने मुकर्रर किया है । और इस में प्रति रुपया २.८८ ग्रेन स्वर्ण की कीमत निर्णित की गई है ।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** This rate has been fixed by the International Monetary Fund and it puts the price of gold at 2·88 grains to the rupee.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मेरे प्रश्न का कोई उत्तर नहीं मिला ।

[**Seth Govind Das:** My question remains unanswered.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the extent of the disparity in the price of gold in the Indian market as compared with that in the U.S.A. and U.K.?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The official price is Rs. 62/8/- per tola; in the market prices have been varying between Rs. 112 to Rs. 115 per tola.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government making any attempt to make the actual sale-price of gold approximate to what is their fixed price? Is there any possibility of doing it?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no possibility whatsoever of bringing it down in the foreseeable future to that level.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what is the prevailing gold rate in the neighbouring countries of Persia and other countries and whether smuggling cases have been reported from those countries?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have not got the exact figures, Sir, but the price is somewhere between their official prices and the Indian price, leaving considerable profit for intending smugglers.

Shri Tyagi: Do the authorities of the International Monetary Fund arrange for us to make purchases of gold from outside at the rates which have been fixed officially?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Well, it is not their business to arrange for the purchase of gold by member countries; but if the member countries have the wherewithal to purchase gold, then the International Monetary Fund won't come in the way.

Basic Education

*1395. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of institutions imparting basic education started in Part 'C' states during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and the amount of expenditure, recurring and non-recurring, incurred by the Government of India thereon; and

(b) what part of the expenses on basic educational institutions is incurred by the Government of India and what portion by the State Governments?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 24].

(b) The expenditure on Basic Education in all Part 'C' States is met in full by the Government of India.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Sir, this statement shows that basic education institutions exist only in 4 States among the Part C States, *i.e.* Delhi, Ajmer, Bilaspur and Kutch. What is the plan of the Government with respect to the other Part C States?

Shri Khurshed Lal: As funds are available, they will be extended to the other States also.

Lala Achint Ram: How many institutions are there where training is given to the teachers for this basic education?

Mr. Speaker: This question relates to the number of basic education schools. What the hon. Member asks now is a fresh question.

Shri Bharati: May I know whether the cost is greater or less in these schools than in the ordinary schools? What will be the position in the long run?

Shri Khurshed Lal: In the long run it will be cheaper, just now it is not.

Shri Barrow: What part of the cost of these institutions is met by the sale of the products actually produced in them?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Naturally that will reduce the cost.

STERLING BALANCES

*1396. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the position of our sterling balances as at the end of December, 1950 and the amount of sterling balances liquidated during the period commencing from April, 1950 upto date and for what specific purpose was the amount utilised?

(b) What was the total cost of imports from and exports to the soft and hard currency areas from 1st September, 1950 upto the end of December, 1950?

(c) What were the dollar earnings made by India, from month to month, during this period and the causes of decrease, if any?

(d) What was the total cost of consumer and capital goods imported separately from soft and hard currency areas during this period and the percentage of imports of capital goods to the total imports?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Our sterling balances which stood at Rs. 858 crores on the 31st March, 1950, declined to Rs 834 crores at the end of December, 1950. The fall of Rs. 24 crores resulted mainly from India's overall balance of payments deficit on current and capital accounts during this period.

(b) Data is available only for the period up to November, 1950. Imports during September to November, 1950, from the soft and hard currency areas were Rs. 93 crores and Rs. 28 crores, respectively. Exports during the same period were Rs. 115 crores and Rs. 46 crores, for soft and hard currency areas respectively.

(c) Preliminary figures now available show our dollar earnings on current account during the period September, October and November, 1950, as Rs. 15 crores, 13 crores and 21 crores, respectively. The slight fall in the month of October does not represent any special trend and may be due to time lag in accounting adjustments.

(d) The Trade Accounts do not classify imports according to consumer and capital goods, and it is, therefore, not possible to give separate figures of imports of consumer and capital goods. Imports of plant and machinery, which constitute the bulk of capital goods, amounted to about Rs. 4 crores from hard currency areas and Rs. 14 crores from the soft currency areas, respectively, during the period September to November, 1950, representing about 15 per cent. of the total imports.

Shri Tyagi: What is the rate that U.K. is paying to us on account of our sterling balances with them?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Half per cent.

Pandit Maitra: Do I take it that the Government of India has not got any agency whatsoever for ascertaining the imports of consumer goods as against capital goods?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The difficulty arises out of the customs classification, which dates from many years past. Goods like industrial raw material, raw cotton, mineral oils, metals, semi-manufactured goods and accessories are not capable of being classified either as consumer goods or as capital goods. You want so many more categories in order to classify the imports.

Shri Tyagi: How are our dollar earnings disposed of? Are they deposited in the Bank of England at the same rate of interest?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Our dollars are sold to the Bank of England for sterling. Therefore all our dollar earnings are finally reflected in the state of our sterling balance account. They are sold at the official rate agreed by the International Monetary Fund between the various currencies.

Shri Tyagi: I am anxious to know whether when our dollars go into the sterling balance, they pay us the same rate of interest of half per cent. on that deposit also.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This rate applies to all our sterling balances. Whichever currencies accrue to us in the first instance are finally turned into sterling. Therefore there is only one corpus on which the rate of interest is paid and that is the sterling balance.

Prof. Ranga: Are we to understand that the dollars we earn have to be first converted into sterling and then deposited in England or have we got the power to keep them separately and then make use of them whenever we want for our own purposes?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That raises the whole issue of the sterling area dollar pool. This arrangement has been in existence now for many years past. We have a right to draw on the central pool for our dollar requirements and during recent years there has never been any occasion when we were stinted for dollars. We have been able to get all the dollars through our sterling balances that we needed for our import programmes.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

*1397. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the basic industries that were newly established with the help of the Industrial Finance Corporation Fund?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Upto the 31st December, 1950, 26 newly established concerns were sanctioned loans by the Corporation aggregating Rs. 5·03 crores. Out of this, Rs. 3·36 crores were sanctioned to 15 basic industrial concerns comprising the following:

3 electrical engineering concerns,
1 heavy machinery factory,
1 machine tools factory,
1 heavy chemicals factory,
6 cotton and woollen mills,
2 cement factories, and
1 sugar factory.

Shri Barman: Have the Government any overall plan to distribute the basic industries regionwise?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think any such plan is in operation.

Shri Barman: My question was whether there is any plan under contemplation, not in operation at the present moment.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: What I meant was that from time to time the desirability of having industrial development spread regionwise has been accepted but it has not actually materialised into a plan. It may be that the matter may be taken notice of by the Planning Commission when they make their recommendations.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: What was the highest sum sanctioned to a single firm?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I notice of that question.

Dr. M. M. Das: What part of the total capital of the newly established concerns was provided by the Government loans?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I cannot give the information.

CIRCUIT BENCH OF HIGH COURT

*1398. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred question No. 243 asked on 22nd November, 1950 and state if the date has now been fixed for the opening of the Circuit Bench of the Punjab High Court in Delhi?

(b) If so, what will be the number of judges who will constitute the Circuit Bench?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) No date has yet been fixed for the setting up of the Circuit Court in Delhi.

(b) The point is subject of consultations which it may not be advisable here to discuss, the matter being primarily a concern of the High Court.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether any progress has been made so far, about the procurement of accommodation?

Shri... Rajagopalachari: We have found the building for accommodating the court itself but arrangements have still to be made to find residential accommodation for the judges and the staff.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I remind the hon. Minister of the promise he had made last time that the Bench would be opened "very soon" and know how soon he hopes the Bench will start functioning?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have been keeping this in my mind all through but the difficulty of finding the accommodation is not a matter entirely within my competence. I repeat again that it will be done very soon.

FOREIGN SHIPPING COMPANIES (INCOME-TAX)

*1400. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answer given to one of my supplementary questions raised on Starred Question No. 515 on the 30th November, 1950, in which

it was stated that all Foreign Shipping Companies, including British Companies, are assessed to Indian Income-tax and state what is the total revenue (i) accrued; and (ii) realised from such Foreign Companies giving figures for all Foreign Companies and British Companies separately?

(b) What was the maximum and minimum outturn of such revenue during the last three financial years and the profits they made during each of these three years?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The information is not readily available. It is however being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it a fact that in 1945 the U.K. Government gave an undertaking to all U.K. Shipping and Airway Companies that they would be exempted from the tax and as such all the assessees when they were asked to file their returns said that they were exempted from the tax?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I must have notice of that question.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Foreign Airways (Taxation)

*1401. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Airways concerns operating in India are liable to Indian Taxation;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether there are any such concerns which are exempted from such taxation; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the names of such concerns and the reasons for exemption?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) No, except one concern which belonged to a Foreign Government. The question whether that concern now belongs to any Government is under enquiry.

(c) A Foreign Government is not liable to be taxed under the present law.

Primary and Secondary Schools

*1402. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of primary and secondary schools in the Centrally Administered Areas in 1946-47, 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): The number of these schools was 1,010 in 1946-47; 879 in 1947-48; 1,798 in 1948-49 and approximately 4,540 in 1949-50.

Information for the year 1950-51, which will close on 31st March, 1951, is yet to be received.

Indian Medical Relief Mission

*1403. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Medical Relief Mission is still working with the U.N.O. Forces in South Korea; and

(b) whether any of the members of the Mission has been killed or wounded?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Presumably the hon. Member refers to 60 Indian Field Ambulance. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) None to date, as far as latest information is available.

Indian Citizenship for Tibetans

*1404. **Shri A. B. Gurung:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tibetans are treated as Foreigners; and

(b) whether Tibetans settled in India can claim Indian citizenship?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Till recently Tibetans were exempted from both passport and visa regulations and from the necessity of registering themselves under the Registration of Foreigners Rules. They are still exempt from passport and visa regulations but are required to register themselves.

(b) Yes, provided they satisfy the conditions laid down in Part II of the Constitution or such future legislation as Parliament may enact.

Electricity to Delhi from Nangal

*1405. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the date of Supply of electricity to Delhi from the Nangal Project has again been revised?

(b) If so, what are the reasons and what is the revised date?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes, according to latest reports received from the Government of the Punjab.

(b) The main reasons necessitating a revision of the date are:

(i) Uncertainty of the supply position of certain equipment and accessories required for the project,

(ii) Unforeseen difficulties and problems involved in locating suitable soil for the foundation of Power House building involving deep excavation.

The supply of electricity from the Nangal Project for Delhi will now be available by April or May 1953. Previously this supply was expected to commence by the middle of 1952.

Transmitters for Delhi

*1406. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that three new transmitters of 100 K.W. each are being erected in Delhi?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for concentrating all the three 100 K.W. transmitters in Delhi alone?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The question as to where the transmitters should be located is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Transmitters

*1407. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 50 K.W. transmitters are being allowed to rust for the last two years or so at Bombay, Madras and Delhi?

(b) If so, why?

(c) What steps are being taken in the matter?

(d) When will the work of new erection in connection with this machinery be undertaken?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Five 50 K.W. medium wave transmitters have been kept in storage at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. There is no transmitter in storage at Delhi. All possible care is being taken of the equipment.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) When the necessary funds are available.

Defence Health Canteen

*1408. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain amount from the Welfare Funds of Armed Forces Head Quarter Staff, was advanced to the Defence Health Canteen as loan; and

(b) what facilities are being provided from the said fund to the other Defence canteens, recognized by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes.

(b) None.

Delimitation of Constituencies

*1409. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has so far been achieved in each of the States with regard to the delimitation of Constituencies and preparation of electoral rolls;

(b) whether it is a fact that electoral rolls have been ordered to be printed in English, if so, where;

(c) how many claims and objections have been received up to date in each of the States; and

(d) how many of them have so far been disposed of?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) With regard to the delimitation of constituencies, the hon. Member's attention is invited to my answer given on the 8th February, 1951 to Starred Question No. 1267 by Shri Raj Kanwar. As regards the electoral rolls, the preparation of these rolls has been completed, and the rolls have been published for the purpose of inviting claims and objections, in all States except Punjab. The preliminary publication of the rolls in Punjab will be made early in March, 1951, and the final rolls of all the States are expected to be ready by the end of July, 1951.

(b) Yes. The Election Commission has directed the Government of Bombay to prepare the electoral rolls for the Bombay City in English, as complaints were received by the Commission that the rolls which have been published in Devanagari script were not easily understood by a substantial number of the electors in the City.

(c) and (d). The period for the receipt of claims and objections was over in most of the States only very recently and in some the period is not yet over. No accurate statistics as to claims and objections is accordingly available at present.

Archæological Expedition at Kausambhi

*1410. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) what historical finds have come to light in the archæological expedi-

tion of the Allahabad University at Kausambhi; and

(b) whether the scarcity of funds is a hindrance in the further progress of the researches at Kausambhi?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Structural remains, pottery, two hoards of Indo-Parthian coins and a large number of terracotta figurines and beads have been excavated during the last three years. The site that is being excavated this year has proved to be that of a Buddhist establishment, Ghoshitaram, where Buddha is said to have lived.

(b) According to the Director of Excavations' report, more progress could have been made if larger funds were available.

Births and Deaths

***1411. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the rates of births and deaths in India as available from the latest sources?

(b) How do the above figures compare with those of the U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and the U.K.?

(c) How does the rate of child mortality in India compare with that of U.S.S.R.?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. But in view of two facts, namely, defective registration of births and deaths and possibly a relatively large margin of error in our estimated population, the rates given in the statement cannot be held to be accurate. Nevertheless it will be seen therefrom that India's birth rate, death rate and infant mortality rate are higher than those of the U.S.A. and the U.K. Figures for the U.S.S.R. are not available.

STATEMENT

Comparative rates of births, deaths and infant mortality in India, U.S.A. and the U. K.

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000		
	India	U. S. A.	U. K.
1947	26.6	25.8	20.8
1948	25.5	24.2	18.1
1949	26.7	24.1	17 0

Year	Death Rate per 1,000		
	India	U. S. A.	U. K.
1947	19 7	10.1	12 1
1948	17.2	9.9	10·9
1949	16 0	9.7	11 7

Year	Infant mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.		
	India	U. S. A.	U. K.
1947	145.6	32.2	43.5
1948	130 1	32 0	34.0
1949	123 1	31.0	32.0

The rates in respect of the U. S. S. R. are not available.

Nutritive Diet

***1412. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state if any research under the auspices of the Ministry of Health has so far been carried on to fix up an adequately nutritive diet for the Indian citizen?

(b) If so, what have been the results so far and how will the diet cost?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research (formerly Indian Research Fund Association) appointed in 1944 a Sub-Committee to report on the nutritional requirements of our people. The Sub-Committee, after taking into account the dietary habits of the people in different parts of India and the results of researches regarding nutritional requirements, recommended a balanced diet representing the daily requirements of each adult male for the maintenance of good health.

(b) A statement showing the composition of the diet recommended by the Committee referred to above and its approximate cost on the basis of present market rates in Delhi is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Details of balanced diet and its approximate cost per day on the basis of present market rates in Delhi.

	Ozs.	Approximate cost on the basis of present market rates in Delhi.		
		Rs.	As.	Ps.
(1) Cereals	14	0	2	9
(2) Pulses	3	0	1	3
(3) Green leafy vegetables	4	0	0	6
(4) Root vegetables	3	0	0	6
(5) Other vegetables	3	0	0	9
(6) Fruits	3	0	1	3
(7) Milk	10	0	3	9
(8) Sugar	2	0	1	0
(9) Vegetable oil, ghee, etc.	2	0	2	6
(10) Fish and meat	3	0	2	9
(11) Eggs	1 egg	0	2	6
TOTAL		1	3	6

Electricity for Agricultural Purposes

***1413. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have issued any instructions to the State Governments directing them to give priority to such consumers of electrical energy as require it for agricultural purposes; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the number of States complying with the instructions?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Hindi for Armed Forces

***1414. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been or are being taken by Government to teach Hindi to non-Hindi-speaking officers and other ranks of the Armed Forces; if so, what; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes. The personnel of the Armed Forces are being encouraged to learn Hindi. For this purpose voluntary Hindi classes have been, or are being, started in units and establishments.

(b) Does not arise.

B.C.G. Vaccinations

***1415. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of B.C.G. vaccinations with separate figures for various age-groups, that have been carried out in each of the States since the inauguration of the campaign; and

(b) the period of immunity conferred by the vaccination?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Up to the 31st December, 1950, 2,795,904 persons were tuberculin tested and 961,371 persons were vaccinated with B.C.G. A statement giving the total number of persons tested and vaccinated in each State is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 25]. The majority of the persons vaccinated fall in the age-groups below 20 years. Separate figures for different age-groups are not available at present.

(b) The only practical method of measuring the effect of the vaccination is by making tuberculin tests. From experience, it can be stated that as long as the tuberculin reaction remains positive, the protection obtained by the vaccination will also remain. By repeated tuberculin tests on vaccinated persons at periodical intervals, it is possible to find how long the persons will remain positive reactors after vaccination. This has been done systematically for many years in Europe and it has been found that 6 to 8 years after vaccination more than 90 per cent. of the persons vaccinated will react to tuberculin, if potent vaccine is used.

Anti-Corruption Drive

***1416. Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many cases of Black-marketing were investigated during 1949-50 and 1950-51 in the Centrally

Administered Areas and how many were successfully prosecuted?

(b) How many Government officials were involved in these cases and what disciplinary actions were taken against them?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Corruption Cases

*1417. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many corruption cases against Government officers (Gazetted) were investigated in the Centrally Administered Areas in the year 1950-51 and how many were prosecuted?

(b) How many of them were departmentally dealt with and dismissed?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

District Councils in Tribal Areas

*1418. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether the autonomous districts in the Tribal Areas of Assam have formed their respective District Councils under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): No.

Investigation of Economic Conditions of Scheduled Tribes

*1419. **Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Officer appointed under Article 338(1) of the Constitution of India has been given special instructions with regard to the investigation of economic conditions of Scheduled Tribes in the Scheduled Areas in the States specified in Part A and Part B of the First Schedule of the Constitution of India; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to consider the advisability of giving such instructions to the said Officer to carry on separate investigation in the case of Scheduled Tribes only, without combining the investigation along with Scheduled Castes or with the Scheduled Tribes living outside the Scheduled Areas?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The duties of this officer having been defined in clause (2) of Article 338, no special instructions have been given to him, so far.

(b) No, but the point suggested will be communicated to him, leaving it to him to frame his own plan of work in accordance with the Article under which he is appointed.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 14th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Maintenance Allowance

*1420. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for maintenance allowance pending at the end of December 1950;

(b) how many of these are more than one month and how many more than three months old;

(c) whether any priority is given to the disposal of old applications over new ones;

(d) the total amount of maintenance allowance applied for till the end of December 1950; and

(e) the total amount of maintenance allowance sanctioned till the end of December, 1950.

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 5515 excluding those which may be pending with the district authorities, whose number is not known.

(b) As most of the applications are pending with the State Governments this information is not readily available. As soon as the information is collected it will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes; applications are dealt with in the order in which they are received.

(d) The amount of labour involved in scrutinizing no less than 33,000 applications, will not be commensurate with the result achieved.

(e) Rs 2,39,360 p.m.

Shri Raj Kanwar: By what date are all applications for grant of maintenance allowance likely to be disposed of and a clean slate presented?

Shri A. P. Jain: I am not in a position to say at the moment what the last date would be, but I can assure the hon. Member that we shall deal with the applications as and when they are received from the State Authorities.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What precautions are taken to see that more than one member of the same family does not get maintenance allowance?

Shri A. P. Jain: The applications are carefully scrutinised.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Has any target date been fixed for the receipt of applications for maintenance allowance, and are no more applications received?

Shri A. P. Jain: Thirtieth November was the last date for the receipt of applications.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر- آنریبل منتری صاحب سے میں دریافت کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ یہ جو الاؤنس سینکشن ہو چکے ہیں ان کی ادائیگی کا کیا پروسیجر ہے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state the procedure adopted for the payment of the allowances that have already been sanctioned?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इन की अदायगी का इस वक्त बहुत ही माकूल तरीक़ा है और वह यह है की जिस वक्त कोई मेन्टीनैन्स अलाउंस सैंक्शन होता है तो उसी वक्त एक कार्ड उस शख्स को भेज दिया जाता है जिसको वह

मिलने वाला है और दो या एक कार्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट को भेजे जाते हैं ताकि वह ट्रैज़री में भेज दिये जांय और जिस को अलाउंस मिलने वाला होता है वह वहां ट्रैज़री में या ज़िले में जो अफ़सर मुक़र्रर है उस को वह कार्ड दिखा देता है और उसको अलाउंस मिल जाता है और इस में कोई देरी नहीं होती।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** A very reasonable procedure exists at present for the payment of these allowances. Immediately an allowance is sanctioned, a card is issued to the person in whose favour it has been sanctioned. One or two such cards are issued to the district concerned for being forwarded to the treasury. The person who is to draw this allowance, presents this card in the treasury or to any other competent officer appointed in the district for this purpose and, thus, receives his allowance. No delay is involved in it.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - اس طریقہ میں بہت کچھ دقت ہوتی ہے اور دیری پیش آرہی ہے کیا اس طرح کی کوئی شکایت آنریبل منسٹر صاحب کے پاس پہنچی ہے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Many difficulties are experienced about this procedure and generally much delay is involved. Has the hon. Minister received any such complaints?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन० : जी नहीं, क़तई कोई शिकायत नहीं है। मेरे ख्याल से शायद कोई केस ऐसा होगा जिसमें कि मेन्टीनैन्स अलाउंस मंजूर किया गया हो और उसके बाद जो आने वाली पहली तारीख है उस दिन उस को वह न मिल गया हो।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** No Sir, there are no such complaints at all. I think there is hardly a case when a maintenance allowance is not paid to the person concerned on the 1st day of the month following the date of its sanction.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतायेंगे कि इस अलाउंस देने की स्केल क्या है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state the scale approved for the sanction of these allowances?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसका स्केल उस आमदनी पर मुक़र्रर किया जाता है जो शहरी जायदाद से किसी शख्स को पाकिस्तान में पहले हासिल हो। अगर पाकिस्तान में उसकी आमदनी तीस रुपये माहवार तक थी तो उस को तीस रुपये माहवार पुरानी आमदनी के बराबर तक अलाउंस दिया जाता है। उसके ऊपर इसमें कमी की जाती है और ज्यादा से ज्यादा ५० रुपये माहवार तक अलाउंस दिया जाता है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** This is determined according to the income a person was deriving from his or her urban property in Pakistan. In such cases wherein the income in Pakistan was upto Rs. 30 per month, an allowance equal to that income viz., Rs. 30 per mensem is sanctioned to the person concerned. On incomes exceeding Rs. 30 it is sanctioned on a reduced scale and the maximum amount to be sanctioned is Rs. 50 per mensem.]

سردار حکم سنگھ - اس معقول طریقہ سے کس قدر رقم اب تک دی گئی ہے -

[**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What is the total amount that has been disbursed so far under this reasonable procedure?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इस माकूल तरीक़े से २,३९,३६० रुपये माहवार दिया जा रहा है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** A sum of Rs. 2,39,360 is being disbursed per month under this reasonable procedure.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - کیا منتری صاحب اس طریقہ پر غور کر سکتے ہیں کہ جن کو الاؤنس سینکشن ہو چکا ہے - منظور ہوچکا ہے - ان کا الاؤنس ان کے پتہ پر منی آرڈر سے بھیج دیا جائے اور منی آرڈر کی فیس ان کے الاؤنس کے روپیہ سے کٹ لی جایا کرے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Is the hon. Minister prepared to consider this suggestion that in cases wherein these allowances have already been sanctioned, they may be remitted to the persons concerned per Money Orders at their addresses, the Money Order fee being deducted from these allowances in every case?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं समझता हूं कि वह तरीक़ा इससे बेहतर नहीं होगा क्योंकि जहां हजारों की तादाद में मनीआर्डर जावेंगे उसमें वहां भी ज्यादा देरी हो सकती है। अभी हर एक शख्स को हक़ हासिल है कि दस, बीस या पचास जितने रुपये वह पाने वाला है वह खजाने में जाय और वहां से रुपया ले ले। मैं समझता हूं कि जो तरीक़ा हमने अख्तियार किया है वह उस तरीके से बेहतर है जो आनरेबल मेम्बर साहब ने तजवीज़ किया है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I do not think that this procedure can work better than the present one, because there can be a possibility of delay at this end when the M.Os to be sent number several thousands. At present every drawee of the allowance whether it is ten, twenty or fifty rupees has the right to go to the treasury and draw the allowance from there. I consider the procedure adopted by us to be better than the one suggested by the hon. Member.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Can the hon. Minister state how long it takes to decide on an application and how long the Government takes to disburse the money?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, so far as the receipt of applications is concerned, the last date fixed for their receipt in Districts was 30th November, 1950. Those applications were first sent to the State Government concerned and from the State Government they are passed on to us. Today there are no applications received by us which have not been disposed of. So far as the question of disbursement of the amount is concerned, if an application is granted today, from the first of the next month the person begins to receive the allowance.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : क्या कोई ऐसा नियम निर्धारित हुआ है कि अधिक से अधिक कितन वर्ष तक यह अलाउंस मिलेगा ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Has any rule been laid down specifying the number of years for which these allowances will continue to be disbursed?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अभी हमने यह तय कर लिया है कि जिस तारीख से यह अलाउंस मंजूर होता है उस तारीख से दो साल तक यह दिया जाये।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** For the time being we have decided that such allowance will continue to be disbursed for a period of two years with effect from the date of its sanction.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the maximum amount of compensation paid in any individual case?

Shri A. P. Jain: This question does not relate to compensation—it relates to maintenance allowance and so far as that is concerned the maximum amount given is Rs. 50 per month.

Relief and Rehabilitation

*1421. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of displaced persons who arrived in India from (i) West Pakistan and (ii) East Pakistan since the partition of the Country;

(b) the total amount spent so far by the Government of India on their relief and rehabilitation;

(c) the main heads under which the above amount was spent showing the amounts spent under each head;

(d) the approximate amount still required to be spent to complete the work of relief and rehabilitation; and

(e) the probable period required for the completion of this work?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The total number of displaced persons who arrived from (i) West Pakistan is about 50 lakhs and (ii) from East Pakistan about 49 lakhs. Of the 49 lakhs displaced persons who came from East Pakistan about 18 lakhs have returned to their homes.

(b) and (c). The following amounts have been spent on the relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons under the heads shown below:

	In lakhs of Rs.
(i) Establishment ..	132·06
(ii) Evacuation ..	426·16
(iii) Relief ..	3407·75
(iv) Rehabilitation Schemes	471·85
(v) Loans ..	3638·18
(vi) Capital Outlay ..	404·26
Total ..	8480·26

(d) Attention is invited to the reply given to Part (a) of question No. 558 by Shri Kamath on the 1st December, 1950.

(e) It is not possible to give any idea of the time which will be required to complete the work of rehabilitation.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the main head or form of activity under "Rehabilitation" which is taking the longest time or is likely to take the longest time to complete?

Shri A. P. Jain: The question is not so easy to understand or to answer.

Shri Raj Kanwar: If housing is one of such heads is it taking the longest time to complete? Cannot this work be speeded up and special measures adopted to build more houses for the displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: I can assure the House that we have very considerably speeded up the construction of houses and the remaining problem of housing is by no means of a nature which cannot be overcome—we are trying to expedite it as much as possible.

Shri Raj Kanwar: How does Government propose to meet the huge amount required for the completion of the rehabilitation work?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as I am concerned, I have had no difficulty with the Finance Ministry which finds money for me.

Shri S. N. Sinha: Is the hon. Minister in a position to state how much Government have spent so far in acquiring lands from private owners?

Mr. Speaker: For cultivation or housing?

Shri S. N. Sinha: For both cultivation and housing.

Shri A. P. Jain: The question requires such a minute examination of details and I am not in a position to answer it today, nor can I promise that it will be possible for me to collect the details.

Shri S. N. Sinha: Is it a fact that after the lands were acquired from private owners, the refugees left the place and went back to East Bengal or West Bengal leaving the lands as they are and the private owners have again taken possession of the lands and have also taken the money all right. If this is a fact, may I know what steps Government are taking to realise the amount?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is by no means a general rule. I have not known of any such instance, but if such instances exist and they are brought to my notice, I shall be able to give the answer.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister stated the number of migrants returning to East Bengal to be 18 lakhs. May I know how this number is divided as between Bengal, Assam and Tripura?

Shri A. P. Jain: West Bengal—16·37 lakhs; Assam—1·25 lakhs; Tripura—0·11 lakhs; and Bihar—0·02 lakhs.

Shri A. C. Guha: Does this figure of 16 lakhs from West Bengal tally with the figure given by the West Bengal Government of 12 lakhs?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not with the figure of 12 lakhs but almost an equivalent figure given by the West Bengal Government.

گیانی جی- ایس- مسافر : ریہیبی- لٹیشن پر خرچ کی جو رقم مانلیئے منتری صاحب نے بتائی ہے کیا اس میں وہ رقم بھی شامل ہے جو قرضہ کے طور پر دی جاتی ہے اور جس پر ۶ فی صدی سود لیا جاتا ہے ؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Does the amount spent on Rehabilitation as stated by the hon. Minister, include that sum also which is being disbursed by way of loans and on which an interest of 6 per cent. is being charged?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी हां, इसमें वह सब रक़में जो क़र्ज़ा की शक्ल में दी जाती हैं,

चाहे उन पर ६ फ़ी सदी सूद हो या कम या ज्यादा हो, वह सब इस में शामिल हैं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, Sir. It includes all those sums which are disbursed by way of loans irrespective of the fact whether an interest of 6 per cent. or more or less is being charged on them.]

Shri Kamath: Are there any figures to show how many Muslim migrants returned from West Pakistan to India, particularly U.P. and Rajasthan, after the conclusion of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of 8th April 1950, and what is the expenditure incurred by way of paying them railway fare or otherwise to induce them to return to India?

Shri A. P. Jain: In fact, the question which the hon. Member has asked relates more to the External Affairs Ministry, but I can very roughly tell him the position. Originally, we agreed to take 11,000 persons from Pakistan and we have taken them. Under the second arrangement, about 10,000 persons were to be taken and I think some of them have already come here and recently about 1,500 have come. I cannot give the figures of expenditure because they have nothing to do with my Ministry.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the amount spent for West Pakistan and East Pakistan displaced persons separately?

Shri A. P. Jain: Most of the expenditure in the eastern region has been incurred during the current year 1950-51 and the amount so far booked on the new refugees is Rs. 1,49,38,000. Of course, the expenditure is much more than that.

TEXTILE GOODS (EXPORTS)

*1422. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any complaints from the foreign purchasers of Indian textile goods as regards their quality, packings and price;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to remove the grounds of such complaints; and

(c) whether during the last three years, there have been any diversions of foreign textile orders from India to other sources of supply?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) A Sub-Committee of the Cotton Textiles Fund Committee set up under the Cotton Textiles Fund Ordinance has made a survey of the qualities of the Indian textiles generally exported with a view to ascertaining how far complaints against Indian textiles are justified. The Cotton Textiles Fund Committee will consider in the light of this survey whether any machinery should be set up for inspection of cotton textiles before export.

(ii) The Mill-owners' Association, Bombay is, at the request of the Government of India, preparing, in consultation with the exporters associations, a standard form of contract, which can, in cases of dispute, form the basis for arbitration.

(iii) The Indian Standards Institution has prepared a draft standard code for sea-worthy packing of cotton textiles.

(iv) There is no price control for export. The level of prices is determined under the operation of the forces of demand and supply.

(c) There was a tendency for diversion of foreign orders for cotton textiles to other supplying countries during 1948 when there was an export duty, but during the last two years the position has changed and there is now a good demand for Indian textiles which India is not able to meet in full.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the nature of the complaints so far received?

Shri Karmarkar: The nature of the complaints are:

(i) that cloth exported is inferior to the samples supplied by exporters;

(ii) that yardage of pieces in bales is less than that declared in the invoices;

(iii) that dyeing is *kutcha* and faulty;

(iv) that there are major weaving flaws;

(v) that shipment samples are not sometimes supplied by the exporters;

(vi) that the package of bales is unsatisfactory and the contents burst in transit or get damaged in transit;

(vii) that a number of unnecessary and sometimes illegible markings are made on the bales with the result that the case marked does not reach the proper consignee;

(viii) that exporters charge a premium called "quota charge" in the case of coarse and medium cloth.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are these complaints due to inefficiency on the part of the staff of the businessmen or due to business dishonesty also?

Shri Karmarkar: It seems to be as a result of the cleverness of the exporters, not their inefficiency.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know the approximate difference between the prevailing export price in foreign countries of Indian cloth and the control price in India for the same qualities of Indian cloth?

Shri Karmarkar: It is an interesting question, but does not arise out of this.

Mr. Speaker: Has he got the information?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Referring to the answer to part (c) of the question, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that the Indian textiles exported to U.K. are re-printed in the U.K. mills and sent to South Africa, East Africa and other countries in the Middle East?

Shri Karmarkar: I understand that that is partly the case.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the position of textile exports in South-East Asia countries? Is there any diversion of trade from India to Japan and other countries?

Shri Karmarkar: We allow the export of the exportable amount of cloth to all destinations.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any diversion from India to other countries?

Shri Karmarkar: We have no information to that effect.

COTTON CONTROL

***1423. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cotton Control has been enforced; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Does not arise.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what is the margin between the selling price of Bengal *desi* cotton in this country and in foreign markets?

Shri Mahtab: The price in the foreign market is fluctuating. So far as our present information goes, whereas the control price here is Rs. 650 the price in the foreign market is much higher than that.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government think that cotton control has proved effective or whether they want to amend it to any extent?

Shri Mahtab: Government think that cotton control has been effective in the sense that mills are being supplied with cotton at controlled prices.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is there any truth in the report that there is a different price fixed for export and a different price fixed for local consumption?

Shri Mahtab: There is no price fixed for export, but I catch the hon. Member's point. It has so happened with regard to Bengal *desi* cotton that although the internal price is controlled, the export price has risen in certain export markets and the local price also is tending to rise as a result. This matter is under consideration and we are thinking of steps to meet the situation.

Sardar B. S. Man: Have any serious cases of infringement of cotton price control been reported to the Ministry from PEPSU and if so, what has been the action taken on them?

Shri Mahtab: Reports have been received not only from PEPSU but from other States also which produce Bengal *desi* cotton to the effect that the control prices have been broken in several cases. Some of the Bombay exporters have gone into the market and raised the inner control price. Steps to meet the situation are under consideration.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: May I know whether there is any control on the price of ginned and unginned Bengal *desi* cotton in PEPSU and Punjab.

Shri Mahtab: There is control over the prices of Bengal cotton everywhere, i.e. not only in PEPSU but also in other States.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: Is there any control on unginned cotton?

Shri Mahtab: There is no control anywhere, except that we control unginned cotton by collective purchase. Thus, the price of cotton is controlled.

Shri Tyagi: May I know what is the margin between the export price of cotton and the local purchase price and may I know whether it is a fact that there is a difference of 50 per cent. which the merchants of Bombay are enjoying without the Government levying any duty on it?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already said, that question is under examination.

Mr. Speaker: Let us now go to the next question.

Shri Tyagi: This is a question relating to the loss of revenue to Government.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever that may be.

Shri Mahtab: May I say, with your permission, that there is a heavy export duty on export of cotton, with the result that there cannot be any loss to Government.

INDIAN INTERESTS IN TIBET (NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHINA)

***1424. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations have been conducted on diplomatic level with the Peking Government for safeguarding the Indian political, cultural and commercial interests in Tibet as suggested in the last correspondence of the Peking Government; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). There has been no interference with our interests in Tibet and there is, therefore, no occasion to start any negotiations.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, what is the diplomatic practice at the present moment—whether we carry on diplomatic negotiations both with Dalai Lama and the Peking Government for the protection of Indian interests?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The question is not quite clear to me, but I will endeavour to answer it nevertheless. I do not quite know what the hon. Member means. We have had an Agent in Lhasa: he is there. He deals with any problem that arises in Lhasa. There are not many problems—very few. He keeps us informed and we keep him informed when any question arises.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any of our political or commercial representatives is stationed in any part of Tibet which is under occupation of the Chinese at the present moment?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir.

Prof. Ranga: What is the position, Sir, of the capital city of Lhasa itself? Has it passed into the hands of the Chinese or is it still in the hands of the Tibetans?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: What the internal position is I cannot say—I mean the internal changes. But it continues as before. I think I made it clear on a previous occasion that the advance of any Chinese force was limited round about the border and, in fact, took place largely through a territory about which there was certain argument as to whether it belonged to China proper or to Tibet proper. They advanced there many months ago and since then there has been no major advance anywhere.

Mr. Speaker: I think it is better we do not go into much details over this question.

TRAINING CENTRE FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN DEOLI

***1425. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether displaced persons residing in Deoli camp have made a representation that a Training Centre be opened for them in Bairagarh?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken in this direction?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) A Training and Work Centre was started originally at Bairagarh but since all available accommodation was required for residential purposes by displaced persons coming from Deoli Camp, the Centre was shifted to Gandhinagar, six miles from Bairagarh. It is proposed to transfer the Centre back to Bairagarh as soon as accommodation becomes available.

Shri Sidhva: How many of the refugees who have gone from Deoli to Bairagarh or Bhopal have been able to start their own business with the assistance that Government gave? In the case of those who have not been able to rehabilitate themselves do Government intend to give any help until they are able to stand on their legs?

Shri A. P. Jain: May I submit to the Chair that this question does not arise out of the main question which relates only to the work centre?

Mr. Speaker: I have no idea about the contents of the representation which is referred to here. If the point raised by the hon. Member is referred to in the representation, the question will be relevant; not otherwise.

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as I can say from memory the representation related only to training centre.

Mr. Speaker: Then, of course, the question will not arise.

Shri Sidhva: Will the hon. Minister kindly read the representation, a copy of which I have with me now?

Mr. Speaker: He may refer it to me and table another question. That will save the time of the House.

Shri Sidhva: But that will deny me the opportunity of putting supplementary questions.

What was the amount given to these refugees before they were sent to this place?

Shri A. P. Jain: When they are transferred from one camp to another, ordinarily no amounts are given during the time of transfer except what is spent on the railway fare. I do not know what particular amount the hon. Member has in mind; but I cannot imagine that any money would be paid to them merely because they are transferred from one camp to another.

Shri Sidhva: Was it not a fact that Rs. 300 were given to each family when they were in Deoli which they spent away and when they were sent to Bhopal they had no money?

Shri A. P. Jain: Maybe they may have been advanced. There are so many camps and so many refugees that I cannot remember what amount was advanced to one set of refugees in a particular place.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Why was it considered desirable to remove the camp from Deoli to Bairagarh?

Shri A. P. Jain: Many of the big camps had to be broken for the purpose of rehabilitation, an object for the achievement of which this Ministry has been created.

Land for Displaced Persons in Bhopal

*1426. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how many acres of cultivable land are available in Bhopal for rehabilitation of displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): In addition to 8,055 acres of land which has already been allotted to displaced persons, large areas of waste land in Bhopal are being reclaimed by the Ministry of Agriculture. The exact area of reclaimed land which will be made available for the rehabilitation of displaced persons is not known at present.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, the total acreage of waste land now under cultivation?

Shri A. P. Jain: That question should be addressed to the Agricultural Ministry.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether a request has been made by these persons that they should be given 25 acres of land, with a well dug up by the Rehabilitation Ministry for every 100 acres? If so, do they intend to agree to the proposal?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, the Rehabilitation Ministry has prescribed the scale of assistance which is made available to a refugee family which settles down in rural areas. It comes to about Rs. 1,000 and that is the amount that we are paying. Of course, so far as area of land is concerned, perhaps 50 acres or 100 acres would be more welcome than 25 acres if it can be made available. But at the moment the area which is allotted to a family is between 10 and 15 acres.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is the land reclaimed by the C.T.O. through tractors allotted to refugees, or is it allowed to relapse?

Shri A. P. Jain: To the best of my knowledge, no land has been allowed to relapse. Some land is expected to be reclaimed before the next agricultural season, but there are the claims of various Ministries and various persons and I do not know what acreage we shall be able to get.

ठाकुर लाल सिंह : बहुत से इलाक़े जहां यह नई ज़मीन तोड़ी गयी है, वहां जंगली जानवर बहुत ज़्यादा हैं, जो डी० पीज़ वहां आबाद किये गये हैं वह ऐसी ज़मीन के आदी नहीं हैं। ऐसी हालत में क्या मिनिस्टरी यह जानती है कि जो रुपया ऐसे डी० पीज़ को वहां खेती करने को दिया गया है, वह बरबाद तो नहीं होगा ?

[**Thakur Lal Singh:** In many areas where virgin land has been reclaimed, far too many wild animals are found. The displaced persons settled there are not habituated to this kind of land. Under the circumstances is the Ministry aware of the fact if those sums disbursed to the displaced persons there for agricultural purposes will not prove to be an utter waste?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is carrying on an argument.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, Sir, whether there is any land spare from the local cultivators to be allotted to others?

Shri A. P. Jain: This land is spare from the local cultivators and that is why it is being allotted.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether the land that has been allotted to the refugees is already under cultivation?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes. Land has been allotted to 595 families and they are cultivating the land.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - کتنی رفیوجی فیملیز وہاں پر بسائی جا چکی ہیں -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** How many refugee families have been settled there?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : ५९५ बसाई जा चुकी हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** 595 families have been settled there.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - اور بھی گنجائش ہے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Is there any further scope?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसके बारे में मैं जवाब दे चुका हूं। और ज़मीन वहां तोड़ी जा रही है और उस में मुख्तलिफ़ लोगों की मांग है, तो उसमें भी मुझको कुछ ज़मीन मिलेगी और फिर और बसाये जायेंगे।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have already replied to that effect. More land is being reclaimed and many other people also have put in their demands. This Ministry will also be given a part of that land and then more families will be settled there.]

Modern Hotel for Delhi

*1427. **Shri Sidhva.** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether the proposal for a Modern Hotel to be built in Delhi by a private owner has materialised?

(b) What are the conditions for the construction of the hotel?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (b). Negotiations with Messrs. East India Hotels Limited are expected to be completed very shortly and the conditions for the construction of the Hotel will be placed before the House, if so desired, as soon as the lease agreement is signed.

Shri Sidhva: What are the conditions under which this lease would be given?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): As stated in the answer, Sir, the conditions are still under consideration and when the consideration is complete and the contract is entered into, and as stated in the reply, the conditions will be made available to my hon. friend, but if he wants some outline of the same, I am prepared to give it.

Shri Sidhva: I would like to know what is the area that will be given and the specific conditions.

Shri Gadgil: The area is 17 acres. The price is Rs. 45,000 per acre. A time-limit is fixed within which the construction must be commenced and completed. There is a penalty clause. If the party sells it within 20 years, then the entire unearned increment is taken over by the Government and if the party sells after 20 years, 80 per cent. is to be taken over by the Government.

Shri Sidhva: What is the period for the completion of this Hotel?

Shri Gadgil: It has got to be begun before the 30th June 1951 and completed before the 30th June 1954.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या इसके लिये कोई टेन्डर मांगा गया था या सीधे प्राईवेट फ़र्म के साथ बातचीत की गई थी ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Were any tenders invited for this purpose or direct negotiations were held with that private firm?]

श्री गाडगिल : मैं इसमें यह कहना चाहता हूं कि पहले जिस स्थान पर होटल बनाने

की योजना थी, उस वक्त टेन्डर मांगा गया था, लेकिन वह क्षेत्र बड़ा छोटा मालूम हुआ, क्योंकि वहां सिर्फ तीन एकड़ जगह दे सकते थे, फिर यह सोचा गया कि होटल बड़ा होना चाहिये और उस के लिये क्षेत्र भी बड़ा होना चाहिये, तो उसके लिये कृष्णनगर में उनको १७ एकड़ जगह दी गई है ।

[**Shri Gadgil:** In this connection I have to say that tenders were invited in respect of the previous site on which this hotel was first proposed to be constructed. But later on that site was found to be too inadequate for the purpose as only 3 acres of land could be allotted there. Afterwards it was decided that the hotel should be a bigger one and, as such, should cover a larger area. They were, therefore, given 17 acres of land in Krishnanagar.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : उस १७ एकड़ के लिये कोई टेन्डर मांगा गया था ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Were any tenders invited for those 17 acres?]

श्री गाडगिल : टेन्डर नहीं मांगा गया था, किन्तु उनका टेन्डर प्राईवेट निगोशियशन्स के बाद मंजूर हो गया है, तय हो गया है ।

[**Shri Gadgil:** No tenders were invited, but after private negotiations their tender has been accepted.]

Shri Tyagi: Is this the general policy of the Works, Production and Supply Ministry in the matter of construction of all big buildings?

Mr. Speaker: What is the general policy he is referring to?

Shri Tyagi: Is that now the general policy which is being adopted by Government in the matter of constructing laboratories and important buildings of the State? (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Gadgil: The answer is because of the various diplomatic missions coming over here in order to accommodate their staff and distinguished visitors coming from abroad, there was a clear necessity to have a big hotel and this hotel is subject to the condition that at any time we can requisition 20 per cent. of this accommodation and 10 per cent. rebate on the rate may be available at any time.

Shri T. Husain: Since this hotel is going to be located in the area where the diplomatic Corps building will be, if prohibition is introduced in Delhi, will it apply to this Hotel also?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. Ranga: Why is it that the price set for this land is fixed so low as Rs. 45,000 or something like that when as high a price as Rs. 1,50,000 per acre is being insisted upon for other sites in Delhi?

Shri Gadgil: The other sites are governed by other considerations.

Prof. Ranga: What are those considerations? That does not help at all.

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of great detail.

Shri Gadgil: Because 17 acres are being granted to them.

Mr. Speaker: It all depends upon the situation of the land, the surroundings of the land, the prices roundabout.

Prof. Ranga: Therefore it is that the W.M.P. Ministry is dependent upon the Chair for the answer.

Shri Sidhva: May I know the total number of rooms that will be constructed?

Shri Gadgil: I understand it is round-about 600.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: May I know if the hon. Minister contemplates to have these conditions of the contract being examined by the Finance Committee?

Shri Gadgil: The normal procedure will be followed, Sir.

Pabna Satsangh Ashram

*1428. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the inmates of Pabna Satsangh Ashram migrated to India;

(b) the estimated value of the properties of that Ashram left behind in East Bengal; and

(c) whether the Press of that Ashram has been removed to Dacca by the East Bengal authorities?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) In 1947.

(b) Government have no means of estimating the value of these properties, but the Vice President of the Pabna Satsangh has stated that the estimated value of all the properties comes up to Rs. 1,48,56,000.

(c) Yes. The East Bengal Government has agreed to pay a compensation of Rs. 1,32,450 for this purpose.

This sum, however, has not so far been paid.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, when the Press was removed from Pabna to Dacca?

Dr. Keskar: I think, somewhere in 1948. I cannot give the exact date.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the Government of West Bengal had asked the Government of East Bengal to withhold the requisitioning of the Press and other property until the matter was discussed in the Chief Secretaries Conference?

Dr. Keskar: I am not aware of the point raised by my hon. friend whether the Government of West Bengal had asked them not to requisition that Press, but I can say that the Government of West Bengal has been in correspondence with regard to the requisitioning of this Press with the Government of East Bengal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know how long will it take to realize the compensation amount from the East Bengal Government?

Dr. Keskar: Negotiations have been going on for some time. It is not possible for me to say when they will terminate. The East Bengal Government have in their last letter in November 1950 given an assurance that the compensation will soon be paid.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that the property belonged to a religious institution with some temples inside it?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, that is true.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been no condition in the Delhi Pact or in any other agreement with the Pakistan Government regarding the handling of religious property?

Dr. Keskar: Yes.

Shri A. C. Guha: What has happened to the temple and other properties left there?

Dr. Keskar: I am not able to answer this question, as I have not got the information here.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will Government please enquire how the temple and other properties belonging to that religious institution are being maintained now?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it proposed by the Government of India to advance a sum to the Pabna Satsangh in anticipation of the payment by the Pakistan Government in view of the Satsang being a public institution?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir, there is no such proposal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the temple inside the Ashram has been demolished?

Dr. Keskar: I do not think so. The properties are intact and with regard to the point referred to by my hon. friend, I will certainly try to find out what has happened to that temple.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Import of Cloth and Yarn

*1429. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total quantity and value of yarn and cloth—fine and superfine—imported into India from the Dollar and Sterling regions during the year 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

	Cotton twist and yarn		Cotton piecegoods	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	lbs.	Rs.	yds.	Rs.
From Dollar Area	997	943	41,703	95,385
From Sterling Area	161,402	6,13,146	4,998,968	1,04,65,208

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what portion of the imported yarn was for the handloom industry and what portion for the mill industry?

Shri Mahtab: I think a major portion, which was imported in the beginning of 1950 was for the handloom industry. Since then, no import has been made.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Has any target been fixed for the import of cloth and yarn during the year 1951?

Shri Mahtab: No target has been fixed. As I told you, import has practically been stopped. The last import was in the beginning of 1950.

Prof. Ranga: Will any effort be made to increase yarn imports in view of the fact that the black-market price of yarn prevailing in most parts of India is twice as much as your so-called controlled price?

Shri Mahtab: That may be; but even that price is much lower than the price which is obtaining abroad.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What was the nature of the cloth imported during the year 1950 and may I know whether such cloth is available in India or not?

Shri Mahtab: That cloth was of special varieties which were not then manufactured in India, as for instance, umbrella cloth. Also, there are other varieties of cloth which are not manufactured here in India. It is now being studied whether we can completely stop the import of cloth.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer that the import of yarn and cloth has been stopped, is it not a fact that artificial silk yarn is being imported?

Shri Mahtab: The import of yarn and this particular type of cloth has not been stopped by any order.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it the policy of the Government to allow imports?

Shri Mahtab: The policy of the Government is to import whatever will be necessary for the local industries here, as for instance, yarn for handlooms. If it is found that imported yarn can be used by the handloom weavers profitably, then, import of yarn will be allowed. That is the policy.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that at least a portion of the imported cloth is what has been exported from India, that is, re-imported after some processing?

Shri Mahtab: That is not possible. The kind of cloth which is imported is not manufactured here.

Woollen Cloth

***1430. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total yardage and value of woollen cloth and yarn imported into India from the soft and hard currency areas during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the total yardage and value of woollen cloth and yarn exported out of India to the hard and soft currency areas;

(c) the total number and value of carpets, rugs, blankets, shawls, lohees etc. manufactured in India by the Mills and factories and by cottage and handloom industry;

(d) the total number and value of these articles exported out of India to the hard and soft currency areas; and

(e) the total value and number of rugs, blankets, shawls etc., imported into India during the above three years from soft and hard currency areas?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a), (b), (d) and (e). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 26.]

As regards part (c), the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What portion of the export was from cottage industries and what portion from the mill industry?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid it will be difficult to find it out; but I shall try.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Is it a fact that the price of wool imported from Australia has risen?

Shri Karmarkar: That is a fact.

Thakur Krishna Singh: What effect will it have on the woollen goods in India and what steps are Government taking to keep down the prices in future?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid it will not be possible to keep down prices when the imported wool is higher in price.

Maintenance of Old Displaced Persons

***1431. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Committee set up for considering the responsibility of the Government of India for the maintenance and care of the old, the infirm unattached women, their dependants and children etc., has submitted its report;

(b) if so, their recommendations; and

(c) if not, when they are expected to submit their report?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the report of the Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 27.]

(c) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether these recommendations have been considered by the Rehabilitation Ministry and what action has been taken on them?

Shri A. P. Jain: On some of these recommendations, action has already been taken; on others action will be taken.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to item IV in the statement supplied, may I know whether the difference in the allowances given to the members living inside the homes and outside homes has been considered; that is Rs. 50 is allowed in the case of families living outside the homes and Rs. 75 in the case of families living inside the homes?

Shri A. P. Jain: Broadly speaking, I would like to state that all these recommendations were referred to a committee appointed during the Conference of the Rehabilitation Ministers of States. That Committee made a very important additional recommendation namely the setting up of an Advisory Body. That Advisory Body has been constituted. A resolution on behalf of this Ministry may have been published or may be in the course of being published. All these recommendations will then be referred to that Advisory Body and after ascertaining their opinion, the Ministry will take a decision on this matter.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it true that in fixing allowances, the proportionate income which would have accrued from their properties in Pakistan has been taken into consideration?

Shri A. P. Jain: This scheme does not relate to maintenance allowance at all. Here, this scheme relates to destitute persons who are mostly in camps, and to some to whom allowance is being given though they are not living in the camps.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to items VIII and IX, it is stated that Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru has been asked to convene a meeting to evolve schemes for the gainful employment and education of these unattached persons and children. Has it been done?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have not received any report from Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru. Nonetheless, we have appointed a special officer who is going round and trying to organise Work Centres and Training Centres in the different homes.

Butter (Imports)

***1432. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual quantity of butter imported into India during the last five years;

(b) the countries from which butter was imported during the said period;

(c) which of the States in India consumed most of the imported butter; and

(d) what is the trend of demand this year?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The average annual import of butter during the last five years (i.e. from 1945-46 to 1949-50) amounted to 8552 maunds.

(b) During those years butter was imported mainly from Australia and New Zealand. Small quantities were also imported from the United Kingdom, United States of America, Denmark, Norway, Pakistan, and Netherland.

(c) This information is not available.

(d) The present annual indigenous production amounts to about 16 lakh maunds and the imports during the year 1949-50 amounted to 17,530 maunds. The total of indigenous production and import may be considered to represent rougly the trend of the present demand.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the variation in the prices of butter imported from Australia and New Zealand?

Shri Karmarkar: I think I have not got the figures ready; I can supply them to the hon. Member.

Shri Kamath: Is there any information to show how much butter is consumed *per capita* and how much is used for other purposes such as lubrication?

Shri Karmarkar: Government have information that butter is consumed for eating; but about lubrication, I shall try to find out and inform the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Chinese Invasion of Tibet

***1433. Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how far Chinese forces have advanced into Tibet?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): There has been no change since the reply given to Question No. 43 on the 15th November, 1950.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether the Chinese soldiers have came up to Rema and Woolung in the North Eastern frontier, whether that is known to the Government, and whether they have withdrawn from that area?

Dr. Keskar: If my hon. friend had listened to the reply given in November,

1950, it was stated then, that according to our information Chinese troops had entered the easternmost province of Tibet. It is in that area that our frontier town of Rema lies. It is quite natural that some Chinese soldiers should contact our frontier there.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the advance has been stopped by the Tibetan resistance or due to any other reason?

Dr. Keskar: We have no definite information. But, from the facts it looks as though the advance or further penetration of Chinese has stopped. We ourselves have no definite information.

Shri Sidhva: What is the distance of our border from the town that the Chinese have occupied?

Dr. Keskar: We said that they occupied the whole of one province—the eastern-most province—of Tibet. It is very difficult to say what is the point occupied by the Chinese.

Shri Sidhva: What is the distance between our border and the territory occupied by the Chinese?

Dr. Keskar: It is not a question of any border. The whole province was occupied.

Shri Chaliha: Is it not a fact that Rema was in our jurisdiction and that some Chinese soldiers have occupied it within the last few months?

Dr. Keskar: No, I don't think that information is correct. The fact is certain Chinese soldiers did penetrate into our territory on the border. But it is not certain whether they were aware of the fact that that was our territory. Whatever Chinese soldiers did come have now quitted our territory.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, where is the Chinese army nearest our border?

Dr. Keskar: We have no definite information.

Shri A. B. Gurung: Is it not a fact that as a result of the invasion of Tibet by China, there has been a large influx of Tibetans into Indian territory, if so, may I know what steps the Government propose to stop this influx?

Dr. Keskar: There is no doubt that the number of Tibetans coming from Tibet to India has increased due to the present uncertain conditions in Tibet. Government have not taken any particular steps to stop that. But as the hon. House has been informed before, Tibetans are now treated as foreigners in India and every Tibetan has to register himself so that his movements may be followed by Government.

BICYCLE FACTORY IN MADRAS

*1434. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a bicycle factory is being set up in Madras?

(b) If so, when will the factory begin production of bicycles?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The factory is expected to start assembly and progressive manufacture of bicycles by the end of 1951.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know what is the share of the Government in this factory? What is their contribution?

Shri Mahtab: We have not contributed anything.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are government aware that this cycle factory has been started in collaboration with a factory in England?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will Government please state what is the share of the British firm in this Indian Cycle factory?

Shri Mahtab: Last time when I visited Madras, I personally made investigations into this matter and I visited this factory. In fact, besides giving the "know-how" and technical advice, the British company has no larger financial interest in this factory.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: May I know, Sir, if this factory is going to be only an assembling factory for assembling the parts made in England and imported into India, or is the factory going to manfacture its own parts and assemble its own cycles?

Shri Mahtab: I can let the House know briefly the details of the terms of agreement between the Indian firm and the British firm.

Messrs. Tube Investments, India Limited were permitted in November 1949 to set up a factory in Madras for the manufacture of Hercules bicycles in collaboration with Messrs. Tube Investments Ltd., Birmingham. Their authorised capital is Rs. 50 lakhs and Shri Ramaswami Mudaliar is the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The foreign firm will contribute 49 per cent. of the capital. They will provide

the technical "know-how" and also adequate facilities for comprehensive training of Indian personnel in their factory in the U.K. According to the letter of the sanction, the assembly and progressive manufacture of cycles will be completed in two years.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that the Ministry of Industry and Supply had assured Indian manufacturers that parts manufactured in India will not be imported even for the purpose of assmbling the parts in these cycle companies?

Shri Mahtab: That does not conflict with what is being done here. I don't catch the point of the hon. Member.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: The point is this.....

Mr. Speaker: That will be an argument. He may ask for information.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it not a fact that the Government of India had assured the existing entirely indigenous companies that cycle parts manufactured by them will not be imported even by those companies for the purpose of their own cycles and that they should use only Indian made parts for the assembly?

Shri Mahtab: I do not know about that, but one thing I know and that is that some of the indigenous manufacturers are importing parts which are manufactured in India?

Shri R. Velayudhan: When he visited the factory in Madras, the hon. Minister in a party said that he was interested in the manufacture of the cycles. In view of that, may I know what help he is going to give to this factory?

Shri Mahtab: I could not follow the question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The question is, what help the hon. Minister is going to give to this factory in view of the fact that when he visited it he said that he was interested in the manufacture of cycles.

Shri Mahtab: Well, our help is there, our appreciation, our encouragement and everything following from that.

BRITISH EVACUATION OF SUEZ CANAL AREA

*1435. **Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that when questioned by an Egyptian reporter in England on the 3rd January, 1951, regarding India's attitude on the Egyptian demand for the evacuation of the British troops from the Suez Canal area he said "but in the case of war it is unavoidable that troops should be stationed to safeguard lines of communication and strengthen defence"?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The report referred to is incorrect. Some membes of the press met the Prime Minister at mid-night at the Cairo aerodrome while he was on his way to England. Among other questions a question was asked about the Egyptian demand for the evacuation of British troops. The Prime Minister said in reply that foreign troops should as a matter of principle, be removed wherever they might be. He added that probably the critical international situation was coming in the way of the United Kingdom agreeing to this proposal.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether there has been correspondence between the Government of Egypt and India and other Asian countries over the question of the withdrawal of British troops from Egypt?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it not a fact that India morally supports the Egyptian case cent per cent for the evacuation of British troops from Suez and that the British troops were stationed there on account of the British subjugation of India?

Dr. Keskar: I do not know about the moral support; but the reply of the Prime Minister was that as a matter of principle, foreign troops should be removed from wherever they are. The reply showed that the Prime Minister was not trying in this particular question, to judge the issues because he is not involved either on the side of Egypt or on the side of England. The probable reason, he said, for the difficulties in their removal is the present international situation.

Shri Joachim Alva: Sir,.....

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ADVISORY AND CONSULTATIVE BODIES

*1436. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many Advisory or Consultative Committees, Councils or Bodies exist at present to advise the Government of India on problems of industrial production and development in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A statement is

laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 28.]

TRANSFERS OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

*1437. **Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of cases of transfers of evacuee property, effected subsequent to 26th January, 1948 and pending confirmation and the value of the property involved in them?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A.P. Jain): The information is not readily available.

CASES BEFORE CUSTODIANS

*1438. **Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases, original as well as reviews, revisions and appeals under various sections of the Evacuee Laws pending before the Assistant Custodians, the Deputy Custodians, the Authorised Deputy Custodians and the Custodians in the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 instituted under each provision of Evacuee Laws separately; and

(b) how many of the cases in 1950 were brought over from the years 1947, 1948 and 1949?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A.P. Jain) (a) and (b). The amount of time and labour involved in the collection of the statistics will not be commensurate with the result achieved.

EVACUEE PROPERTY COMMITTEES

*1439. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Governments of India and Pakistan had proposed to set up the Evacuee Property Committees in both the countries?

(b) If so, have any Committees been set up and if so, at which places?

(c) What were the objects of setting up these Committees?

(d) How many claims have so far been settled by each of the Committees and of how much value in terms of money?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A.P. Jain): (a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 29]

YARN REQUIREMENTS OF STATES

*1440. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether estimates from the State Governments about their average requirements of yarn have been received by the Government of India?

(b) If so, what are they State-wise?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The State Governments have already been circularised to intimate their yarn requirements for handloom and other industries, so that yarn quotas may be fixed for each State on the basis of the availability of yarn and the estimates of requirements furnished by it. The quotas fixed for various States on the basis of their requirements during the peak production year 1948 and on the basis of which the present yarn allocations are made are given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

S. No.	State	Monthly quota w. e. f. Dec. '48
(1)	Ajmer-Merwara	120
(2)	Assam	1355
(3)	Bengal (West)	5285
(4)	Bhopal	95
(5)	Bihar	4835
(6)	Bombay	10885
(7)	Cooch-Behar	80
(8)	Coorg	25
(9)	Kutch	90
(10)	Delhi	500
(11)	Himachal Pradesh	60
(12)	Hyderabad	3865
(13)	Jammu & Kashmir	480
(14)	Madhya Bharat	590
(15)	Madhya Pradesh	4790
(16)	Madras	22500
(17)	Manipur	125
(18)	Mysore	1480
(19)	Orissa	3710
(20)	P. E. P. S. U.	385
(21)	Punjab	2435
(22)	Sikkim	15
(23)	Sirohi	15
(24)	Tripura	80
(25)	Uttar Pradesh	10510
(26)	Rajasthan	1365
(27)	Saurashtra	950
(28)	Travancore & Cochin	1955
(29)	Vindhya Pradesh (Mahe-Yanam etc.)	395
	Total	78975

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIES

*1441. **Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the recommendations of the Development Committee on Industries?

(b) Which of those recommendations have been accepted by Government?

(c) Is it a fact that Government propose to set up Industrial panels to advise Government?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). The only recommendation made by the Development Committe on Industries was about the formation of Industrial Panels. Government have accepted the recommendation and Panels have been formed for the Heavy Engineering, Light Engineering, Chemicals, Pharmaceutical, Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metals Industries. The terms of reference given to the Panels are indicated in the note of which a copy is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 30].

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

*1442. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what is the latest position with regard to political rights of Indians settled in South Africa?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Indians settled in the Union of South Africa 90 per cent. of whom are Union citizens hardly enjoy any political rights in that country. They cannot stand for election to municipal or Provincial Council in the Provinces of Natal, Transvaal and the Orange Free State. They do not possess any right of vote. In Cape Province they have the right to vote for the Provincial Council as well as for the Union Parliament, but they cannot stand for election. Franchise Qualifications are also higher for persons of Indian origin than for Europeans, and are confined only to men.

The Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act of 1946 provided for limited Indian representation by Europeans in the South African Parliament and by Indians in the Natal Provincial Council. Even these limited rights were abrogated by an amendment of the Act in 1948.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN ANDAMANS

*1443. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of displaced persons settled in Andaman Islands up to date?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): 961.

GOODWILL MISSION FROM BARISAL

*1444. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Goodwill Mission from Barisal (East Bengal) visited West Bengal;

(b) the object of its visit; and

(c) the personnel of the Mission?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mission visited West Bengal with the object of persuading the Hindu refugees, who had migrated from Barisal, to return to their homes in East Bengal.

(c) The Goodwill Mission consisted of the following:

(i) Sri Satindra Nath Sen, M.L.A. (Leader).

(ii) Janab Shamsher Ali, Advocate (Convenor).

(iii) Sri Monoranjan Gupta, M. L. A.

(iv) Sri Suresh Chandra Gupta (Harijan).

(v) Janab B. D. Habibullah, Pleader.

(vi) Sri Upendra Nath Chatterjee (Pleader and Member Miniority Board).

(vii) Janab Amirul Islam, M.A., LL.B.

(viii) Janab Abdul Majid Khan.

(ix) Sri Jagat Bandhu Mondal.

EAST AND WEST BENGAL CHIEF SECRETARIES CONFERENCE

*1445. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the Chief Secretaries of East and West Bengal was held in the middle of January 1951;

(b) if so, what were the subjects discussed; and

(c) whether any decision regarding minority boards and customs procedure was taken?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Among the various subjects discussed at the Conference, the important ones were:

(i) Evacuee Property Legislation;

(ii) Establishment of Sub-Divisional Minority Boards;

(iii) Ejection of refugees from Mosques and shrines;

(iv) Non-payment by East Bengal of security deposits and provident fund dues to Govern-

ment servants who opted for West Bengal;

(v) Joint enquiry reports on some old border incidents;

(vi) Instructions for the guidance of Customs Officers;

(vii) Return of seized articles; and

(viii) Division of records and furniture of several offices.

(c) Yes. The progress made in the establishment of Sub-Divisional Minority Boards was reviewed and it was recorded that with two or three exceptions Minority Boards had been formed in all sub-divisions in the two Bengals and had started functioning. As regards Customs procedure, it was agreed that Liaison Officers should remain on duty when migrants and their baggage were being examined by the Customs staff, and that complaints against the Customs staff by a migrant should be preferred on the spot before the Liaison Officer of the country to which he was migrating and in the presence of the senior Customs Officer stationed in that locality.

It was also agreed that:

(i) Jewellery, which was broken or damaged to such an extent that it was not capable of being used as jewellery would be treated as bullion and prevented from being taken by migrants;

(ii) that sovereigns and coins which were made into either a necklace, armlet or any other type of ornament should also be treated as bullion;

(iii) that the mere fact that a migrant was a widow did not disentitle her from carrying her jewellery;

(iv) that in order to deny any advantage to smugglers, only a limited number of articles such as clocks, watches, fountain pens, etc. would be allowed to be taken by each migrant and further, that motor cars, motor cycles, sewing machines, cameras, etc; acquired subsequent to the 8th April, 1950, would be allowed to be taken only on production of proof that they had been in the possession and use of the migrant for a minimum period of six months before the date of migration.

EXPORT OF TYRES TO HONG KONG

*1446. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian business firm recently exported 14,000 giant tyres, size 34×7, destined for a consignee in Hong Kong;

(b) the purpose for which the tyres were exported;

(c) whether such tyres are needed in India itself for trucks and other large motor vehicles; and

(d) whether the aforesaid export has resulted in shortage of this important type of tyre in our country?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) During the year 1950, about 44,047 giant tyres and 36,695 giant tubes were shipped by manufacturers and 12,500 sets of giant tyres and tubes were shipped by other exporters. These exports went to numerous destinations. I understand that no single licence was granted to any individual exporter for the export of 14,000 giant tyres to Hong Kong.

The export of giant tyres and tubes by manufacturers is allowed freely to permissible destinations, and within fixed quotas by others. Quotas are fixed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the basis of surpluses declared by manufacturers after taking into account all internal requirements. For the year 1950, a total quantity of 20,000 sets of giant tyres and tubes was fixed for export by non-manufacturers.

(b) Surplus tyres are exported to meet the requirements of countries with which we trade, and to earn foreign exchange.

(c) Exports are allowed after fully taking internal requirements into account.

(d) Does not arise

SALT

*1447. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any kind of tax or duty levied on salt at present;

(b) why the prices of salt are increasing; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to standardise the prices?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No tax or duty is levied on salt; but to meet the cost of establishment and to maintain the common services, a cess of 3½ annas per maund is levied on salt issued from Government factories and 2 annas per maund on salt issued from private factories.

(b) Except for rock salt, there has not been any general increase in the price of salt since 1948. There may have been an occasional increase in some centres owing to temporary transport difficulties.

(c) All State Governments have been empowered to control the price and distribution of salt, if necessary. A Zonal Scheme of Distribution is in operation with a view to ensure regular and adequate supplies to all parts of the country, and a careful watch is being kept over stocks and prices.

TEA GARDEN LABOUR

*1448. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what improvements have been made in the conditions of labour employed on the tea gardens since the 15th August, 1947?

(b) Are educational facilities and medical aid freely available to labourers in tea gardens?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The following improvements have been secured for workers in Tea estates since the 15th August, 1947:

(i) *Wages.*—The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, which provides for fixation, before the 15th March, 1951, of minimum wages *inter alia* for tea workers, was enacted. Necessary action for fixing minimum wages for plantation workers has been undertaken by State Governments.

A few months before the 15th August 1947, on the result of Tripartite Conference held in January 1947, an interim dearness allowance at the rate of 2 annas per day per adult worker and one anna per day per child worker was granted for the plantation workers in North India. The rates of dearness allowance were again increased by agreement at Tripartite meetings in 1948 by 0-3-6 annas per day in the case of adults and 0-2-0 for children for all areas (including South India) except Darjeeling, Cachar and Tripura, where an increase of 0-3-0 and 0-2-0 annas respectively for adults and children was granted.

(ii) *Subsistence allowance on repatriation from Assam.*—Rates of subsistence allowance of As. 6 and 0-3-0 a day allowed respectively to an emigrant adult and a child on repatriation from Assam tea gardens were increased to Rs. 1-8-0 and 0-12-0 a day under the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Rules, 1933.

(iii) *Housing.*—The Government has been able to persuade a majority of the employing interests in tea industry to provide houses for labour in accordance with the approved standards for at least 8 per cent. of their labour population every year. The Indian Tea Association has already constructed 8,911 houses according to approved specifications and have a programme to build another 6,558 houses by the end of March, 1951. Other Tea Associations have also constructed houses for their labour but exact figures are not available.

(iv) *Maternity Benefit.*—In October, 1948, a Maternity Benefit (Tea Estates) Act, was passed allowing a maternity leave of 12 weeks at Rs. 5-4-0 per week to women workers in tea estates in West Bengal.

(v) *Education.*—The Bengal (Rural) Primary Education Act, 1930, was introduced in the district of Darjeeling from the 14th April, 1949. The Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, which came into force on the 3rd October, 1947, was introduced in some selected areas of Assam including a number of Tea Districts with effect from the 1st February, 1949.

(vi) *Legislation for Plantation Employees.*—Proposals for legislation regulating conditions of work of Plantation Labour, e.g. hours of work, intervals of rest, annual leave, housing, prohibition of employment of children, medical and educational facilities, creches, sanitary conveniences, sickness and maternity benefits and recreational facilities etc. have been evolved in consultation with the State Governments and after discussions at a number of Tripartite Plantation Conferences. A final decision on this question of legislation is likely to be reached soon.

(b) Free education has been provided for by some of the employers of the larger estates. Adequate medical facilities are also available free to labour particularly on larger tea estates which have made good progress in bringing their existing medical facilities on par with those recommended by Dr. Llyod Jones.

COLONY FOR THE PRESS IN DELHI

*1449. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India propose to build a special colony in Delhi for the representatives of Indian and foreign press; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in the matter so far?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) There is no proposal for the establishment

of a residential colony in Delhi for the representatives of the Press, but the question whether some residences should be built by the Press Association in a suitable area or by the Government for the use of members of the Press is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

COAL (IMPORT)

*1450. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what grades of coal, if any, are imported into India?

(b) What is the annual value of such imports?

(c) What are the purposes for which such coal is imported?

(d) Is such coal not available in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Coal is not normally imported into India at all. On the other hand, India exports coal.

(c) and (d). No definite information is available regarding any particular purpose for which the coal is imported. It is possible that these imports only cover transit trade, coastal trade, or trade between French India or Portuguese India and India.

LABOUR APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

*1451. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of members appointed to the Labour Appellate Tribunal;

(b) the number and location of the Benches of the Appellate Tribunal;

(c) the total cost of the Appellate Tribunal per annum; and

(d) whether and if so, what provision has been made for the publication of the decisions of the Appellate Tribunals?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Five (including the Chairman).

(b) One at Bombay and one at Calcutta.

(c) The estimated expenditure for the year 1951-52 is Rs. 3,90,000.

(d) Arrangements are being made to publish the decisions of the Tribunal in the Gazette of India. The question of bringing out an official journal on the lines of Indian Law Reports is also under consideration.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES

*1452. **Shri Venkataraman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the total number of the Industrial accidents in factories in India in the year 1949?

(b) How many were fatal and how many were cases of disablement, temporary or permanent?

(c) What was the total amount of compensation paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act?

(d) Was any compensation not collected owing to the inability of the employer to pay and if so, in how many cases and what was the total amount?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). Two statements giving the information available for 1949 are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 31].

The statement giving statistics of compensation paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act is wider in scope than the statement relating to accidents, as compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act is payable not only to workmen in factories but also to workmen in other employments, *e.g.* mines, railways, plantations, etc., Separate figures of compensation paid for accidents in factories are not available.

(d) No information is available.

EXPORT OF CLOTH

*1454. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any restrictions have been placed upon export of cloth recently?

(b) What is the quantity proposed to be exported from 1st February 1951 to 31st March 1951 and what would be its value?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A quota of 20 million yards of coarse and medium cloth was earmarked for export to hard currency countries during the first half of 1951. As applications had been received in excess of this quota, it was announced that no more applications would be entertained with effect from 5th January, 1951. Issue of licences for fine and superfine cloth was suspended on 12th January 1951, as large quantities had already been licensed. The export of coarse and medium cloth to soft currency countries will be regulated within an overall quota of 100 million yards for January-June 1951.

(b) Approximately 200 million yards. Its value will be about Rs. 175,000,000.

EXPORT OF GROUNDNUT

*1455. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any objections from any groundnut oil merchants from Madras State to the export of groundnuts; and

(b) whether Government are considering to barter groundnuts with food grains from abroad?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

IMPORT LICENCES

*1456. **Shri Deogirikar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the import licences are granted only if the applications for such licences are accompanied by a certificate from the Directors of Industries of the States concerned?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): No. Only 'Actual Users' are required to furnish along with their applications, a certificate as to their manufacturing capacity and actual requirements from the Director of Industries of the State in which the factory is located or from the technical officers of the Central Government.

SUPPLY OF JUTE BAGS TO U. N.

*1457. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which it was decided to supply free of cost four lakhs jute bags to the United Nations for the transport of forty thousand tons of rice promised by Thailand to South Korea;

(b) the date on which the concurrence of the Finance Minister in his capacity as Chairman of the Standing Finance Committee was obtained for incurring the expenditure necessary for the purchase of these bags;

(c) the dates on which the Standing Committee for the Ministry of External Affairs has met since 1st September, 1950; and

(d) the dates on which the Standing Finance Committee has met since 1st September, 1950?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) 30th September, 1950.

(b) 21st November, 1950.

(c) 24th and 30th November, and 13th December, 1950.

(d) 2nd December, 1950.

BOUNDARY DEMARCATION

*1458. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the services of a London Air Survey Company have been sought for by the Governments of India and Pakistan to help in the demarcation of boundaries between West Bengal and East Pakistan?

(b) If so, what is the exact nature of work for which the said firm has been invited?

(c) What is the total expenditure for the services of the firm and how is it proposed to be met?

(d) What will be the approximate date when the firm will complete their work?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, but only for the demarcation of the disputed portion of the boundary between the districts of Murshidabad (West Bengal) and Rajshahi (East Bengal), in accordance with the award of the Bagge Tribunal.

(b) The exact nature of the work entrusted to the firm is as follows:

(i) Aerial photography of approximately 1500 square miles and the supply of contact prints, enlargements and air photo mosaics.

(ii) Duplication of the original negatives of the air photography so that the Governments of India and Pakistan could each hold one set of negatives.

(iii) Preparation of maps from the above aerial photography, of approximately 680 square miles, and the supply of 1,000 copies of each map.

(c) The total expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 4,70,450 which will be shared equally by the Governments of India and Pakistan.

(d) Taking of aerial photographs was completed during January, 1951, but the preparation of printed maps therefrom is expected to be finished only by about March, 1952.

BOUNDARY BETWEEN WEST BENGAL AND EAST PAKISTAN

*1459. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that steps have been taken by Government to have a well-defined boundary between West Bengal and East Pakistan in places where there is no natural boundary?

(b) Is it a fact that a number of disputes regarding the boundary have arisen and if so, what is their number and what are the means adopted to settle them?

(c) Has this task of demarcating the boundary been taken up already and if so, what is the approximate date when it will be completed?

(d) What is the estimated expenditure for this task?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). The Governments of India and Pakistan have jointly started work on the demarcation of the entire boundary between West Bengal and East Bengal covering a length of 765 miles. The principal dispute was as regards the delimitation of the boundary along a length of 90 miles, between the districts of Murshidabad (West Bengal) and Rajshahi (East Bengal). This was referred to the Bagge Tribunal and the demarcation of this portion of the boundary has been undertaken in accordance with the Award of that Tribunal.

The rest of the boundary is being demarcated jointly by the Survey experts of West Bengal and East Bengal in accordance with the Thana notifications and cadastral survey maps. Till now disputes have arisen in two *Mauzas*, Joynagar and Bhatupara. In accordance with the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of December 1948 they are to be settled by discussions by the District Magistrates on both sides, and, if they fail to reach agreement, by the Divisional Commissioners.

The demarcation is expected to be completed by March 1953.

(d) India's share of the estimated cost of demarcation, which is 50 per cent. of the total cost, is expected to be Rs. 11,55,750. This will be spread over a period of three years as follows:

1950-51	..	Rs. 3,49,000
1951-52	..	Rs. 4,81,250
1952-53	..	Rs 3,25,500

TRANSFER OF IMPORT LICENCES

***1460. Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a proposal to make transfer of Import Licenses a penal offence is under consideration of Government?

(b) What are the numbers of cases of transfer of import licenses reported during each of the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(c) Is any action taken at present for discouraging the practice of transfer of import licenses?

(d) In what way has the said practice proved to be harmful?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Central Government have already issued on the 15th November 1950 an order under Section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 (XVIII of 1947) making transfer and/or acquiring by transfer, of licence a penal offence, except when such transfer is authorized by the licensing authority who originally granted the licence or an officer empowered in this behalf.

(b) Nine unauthorised transfers were detected during the year 1949-50 and 5 such unauthorised transfers have been detected in the current financial year. Separate statistics of authorised transfers of import licences are not maintained and the time and labour involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with the purpose for which it is required.

(c) Where unauthorized transfers of import licences come to notice, the firms concerned are debarred from getting licendes permanently. The question of prosecuting the firms concerned is also examined taking into account the nature of the evidence available.

(d) In certain circumstances the transfer of import licences is not open to any objection and provision exists for the issue of letters authorising such transfers. Attention in this connection is invited to Public Notice No. 51-ITC(P.N.)/50, dated the 10th July 1950, and para. 21(a) of Public Notice No. 150-I.T.C. (P.N.)/50, dated 15th December 1950, copies of which are available in the Library of the House. On the other hand, a person who obtains a licence but does not intend to import himself deprives the genuine importers of the opportunity to import and also increases the cost to the consumer on account of the consideration for which he parts with his licence.

BORDER RAID IN P.E.P.S.U.

***1461. Sardar Sochet Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a party of seven Pakistanis penetrated nearly twenty miles into the territory of the Indian Union on the evening of the 9th November, 1950, committed three dacoities, killed one woman and injured one man with firearms and tried to kidnap a girl in village Guddey, P.O. Sultanpur Lodi, in District Kapurthala of P.E.P.S. Union?

(b) If so, what action was or has been taken against the culprits?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). Government of India have no information. A report from the P.E.P.S.U. Government has been called for and this will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

SINDRI FACTORY

***1462. Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Fertilisers Factory at Sindri in the State of Bihar is going to be placed under an autonomous Board?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): Yes, Sir; the proposal is to vest the affairs of the Fertiliser Project, Sindri, in a State-owned private limited company.

NEWSPRINT

***1463. Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why there has been so much rise in the prices of newsprint; and

(b) whether the Government of India intend to control the distribution, sale and purchase of newsprint?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There is a world shortage of newsprint on account of increased consumption and stock-piling in the U.S.A. and some other countries.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

RUBBER (PRICE)

***1464. Shri Sivan Pillay:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision to allow an increased interim price for raw rubber was arrived at, at a Conference the hon. Minister had at Madras with the representatives of rubber growers and the Governments of Madras and Travancore-Cochin on the 7th January, 1951; and

(b) if so, the cause of the delay in putting that decision into operation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The question of giving an *ad interim* increase to the price of rubber was fully discussed and *prima facie* the demand of the rubber growers was accepted as legitimate by the Governments of Madras and Travancore and I agree to it.

(b) The delay is due to the time taken in collecting some more materials and then regularising the procedure.

COAL PRODUCTION

98. Shri R. L. Malviya: Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to place on the Table of the House a comparative statement showing:

(i) the annual production of coal in each of the Government Railway Collieries, for three years before the abolition of the Raising Contract System, and thereafter up to date; and

(ii) the labour strength in each of the collieries during the period mentioned in part (i) above?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (i) and (ii). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 32].

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 15th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

IMPORT OF FOOD

*1465. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister's promise of "one food-ship a day" is being fulfilled; and

(b) if so, since what date?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). More than one ship a day, have been arriving at Indian Ports since December, 1950. 44 foodgrain ships arrived in December 1950 and 38 ships in January 1951. The number of ships expected in February and March is 41 and 47 respectively.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the total amount of foodgrains imported since the date mentioned and how they are distributed State-wise?

Shri Thirumala Rao: During the month of February, we got 317,000 tons and during March 319,000 tons. For the break-up, I want notice.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the names of the countries from which the foodgrains have been imported? Have any attempts been made to secure foodgrains from China and Russia?

Shri Thirumala Rao: More than once the names of countries have been given on the floor of the House. We have contracted to get 50,000 tons of foodgrains from China and nothing so far from Russia.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that frequent references to the shipping problem by responsible members of the Ministry have had the effect of putting up shipping freights?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The problem of shipping is so well advertised in the world Press that it does not acquire any additional importance by its being mentioned by members of the Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: I may inform the hon. Member that this question of freight was pressed in supplementaries during the last week and it was explained at that time that, the additional shipping space required by India for the foodgrains has no relation to the general rise of rates of shipping freight.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Did the Government of India approach Russia in 1950 or 1951?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think he is repeating the same question which has been asked several times before.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Another question, Sir. Is it a fact that the Government of India are negotiating with China for another instalment of 50,000 tons of foodgrains and if so, what are the conditions attached to this offer by China?

An Hon. Member: Is there an offer?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are trying to get some more foodgrains from China on the basis of barter. They want some gunny bags from us.

Shri Bharati: What is the average tonnage of foodgrains that one ship is capable of carrying?

Shri Thirumala Rao: On an average, it can bring 8 to 9 thousand tons.

Shri A. C. Guha: Of the foodgrains that have arrived within the last two or three months, may I know how much is wheat and how much is rice?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for this question.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Have Government considered the terms of the U. S. legislation authorising the grant of foodgrains to India, and if so, what are their reactions thereto?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government are not aware of any legislation passed by the U.S.A. so far.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: May I put one last supplementary, Sir? Has the attention of Government been drawn to a statement made by an officer of the Russian Embassy in India to the effect that "we are prepared, we have always been prepared and we shall always be prepared to give foodgrains to India"?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government are always prepared to take advantage of any readiness that is being exhibited by foreign Governments to give us foodgrains.

MR. LINNENGER'S IRRIGATION SCHEME

*1466. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Mr. Linnenger, German Engineer, has presented directly or indirectly any scheme of irrigation which would increase agricultural production in India?

(b) In how many countries has this scheme been worked out?

(c) What steps have Government taken for introducing this scheme for increasing production?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A proposal for a trial of Mr. Linnenger's system of irrigation, in which water is sprayed on cropped areas by means of sprinkler pipes carrying water under pressure, was received by the Government of India from an Engineer in Delhi. It was claimed that under that system production could be increased by 50 per cent.

(b) no definite information on this point is readily available but it is known that spray irrigation is used in the U.S.A., U.K., and Australia for truck or garden crops only or for small areas where costly crops are grown.

(c) The Ministry has not conducted experiments about the economics of the system of irrigation referred to but we shall be glad to assist private enterprise in trying out this system.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether nearly 400 installations of this type are working with magnificent results in Western countries and also in some countries of Asia and they actually have produced more grains?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are not aware of it.

Shri Sidhva: When this scheme was placed before Government, was any enquiry made about this matter?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. The scheme was referred to our expert officials in the I.C.A.R. They wanted a lot of money before the claims made on behalf of this scheme could be established.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Government of India originally approved of this scheme and if so, what happened subsequently which made this scheme fall through?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any approval given by the Government of India to this scheme.

Seth Govind Das: The Deputy Minister just now stated that help could be given to private enterprise in this respect. May I know what kind of help would be given?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Technical assistance and advice will be placed at the disposal of people who are prepared to invest money in this experiment.

Seth Govind Das: Will any financial help in the shape of loans be given?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our advice is that the initial expenditure may go up to more than Rs. 30,000 and our officials feel that it is not worth spending so much.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have Government examined in detail as to what the cost of this scheme would be?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The initial expenditure is put down at about Rs. 20,000 and the recurring expenditure at Rs. 14,000 before any result could be achieved.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the hon. Minister stated that he is not aware of Government having given their approval to this scheme or whether he stated that he is not in a position to say whether it was given or not?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I stated that we have not given our approval.

SALE OF SWEEPINGS OF FOOD GRAINS

*1467. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether nearly 2,500 maunds of good quality wheat belonging to the Government of India was sold as sweepings of grain and unfit for human consumption in November 1950 or thereabouts from the godowns in Bombay situated in Clive Road?

(b) Is it a fact that on enquiry by police, it was found that the wheat bags which were discarded as sweepings were not so?

(c) If so, what steps have Government taken in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) In January 1950 about 480 bags (approximately 1200 maunds) of wheat were sold by the Office of the Regional Food Commissioner, Bombay, as sweepings of grain unfit for human consumption and fit as cattle feed.

(b) These bags were seized by the Police from the purchasers and it was found that the wheat in majority of them was fit for human consumption.

(c) An enquiry was made and police investigation was ordered. As a result an Assistant Director and a Godownkeeper were prosecuted. The case against these officers is pending in the Magistrate's Court in Bombay.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the two per cent. of wastage that the Government allow in all cases, may I know whether these sweepings are artificially created and are Government going to reconsider this question? I ask this question because this two per cent. wastage is automatically allowed to all contractors.

Shri Thirumala Rao: We shall examine whether this two per cent. is more than what is warranted.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this two per cent. is automatically allowed in all cases or not?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I don't think that is the case. There are also cases where a lesser percentage is allowed, considering the quality of the grain.

Shri Sidhva: What is the percentage fixed by Government? That is what I want to know.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any fixed percentage?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think it is not more than two per cent. in any case.

Shri Sidhva: I ask once again, Sir, whether two per cent. sweeping is allowed in all cases?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. I told the hon. Member that in certain cases a lesser percentage is allowed.

Shri Sidhva: I am repeatedly asking this question, Sir, because I have personally seen in Bombay that even good grain is put away under the guise of sweeping and declared as "sweeping".

Shri Thirumala Rao: I can assure the hon. Member that we shall have this question examined.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is there any periodical examination and investigation of the condition of storage of the grains in stock?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes. There are godown-keepers who are trained in the art of keeping these godowns free from pests. These people who are in charge of the godowns carry out periodical examinations.

Shri Sonavane: What steps are taken to see that no good grain passes from the godowns under the guise of "sweepings"?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Director who is in charge of these godowns is a responsible officer, and as a result of recent complaints one Assistant Director and Godown-Keeper were suspended and criminal prosecutions are in progress against some others.

Shri Sidhva: Was the Regional Commissioner's attention drawn to such a case and is it a fact that he refused to take action until the Police came on the scene?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of this particular instance. But the Director is mainly responsible for maintaining these godowns.

AIR INTERNATIONAL CONSTELLATION AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

*1468. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the cost of Air International Constellation Aircraft which met with an accident in the month of November, 1950 near Geneva;

(b) whether the Aircraft was insured, and if so, for how much amount;

(c) whether the money has been recovered from the Insurance Company;

(d) whether Government have a share in the loss sustained by this aircraft;

(e) whether it is a fact that due to this wreckage, one service of Air International to London has been cancelled; and

(f) whether it is contemplated to purchase a new Constellation?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The cost of this Constellation Aircraft was Rs. 35·63 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir. It was insured for Rs. 57 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This does not arise as the loss has been recovered from insurance. Government hold 49 per cent of the shares in Air India International.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Yes Sir, very shortly.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, what amount has been realised from insurance; has the full amount been realised from them?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That is what exactly my answer implied.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether towards the purchase of the two constellations, Government is going to pay any money?

Shri Khurshed Lal: My hon. friend forgets that there is no question of Government making any purchase. The aircraft belonged to the Air India International which is a limited Joint Stock Company, of which Government are also shareholders. Whatever orders have to be placed are placed by the Air India International.

Shri Sidhva: That is a fact—I know it. My point is that the Company has placed orders for the purchase of two constellations at a cost of Rs. 55 lakhs per constellation, that is Rs. 1 crore in all. Do Government propose to grant any loan to the Company?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am not aware of the financial arrangements that the Air India International are making. The position is like this. The Air India International had four Constellations, of which they had contracted to sell two to Quantas. The Air India had placed orders for the purchase of two newer type of Constellations from America. The aircraft which met with the accident was the one which was to have been delivered to Quantas. They are therefore delivering only one to Quantas and getting the two new ones for which they had placed orders.

BILATERAL AVIATION AGREEMENT

***1469. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of countries with whom India has entered into bilateral aviation Agreement?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): The Government of India has concluded long term Agreements for air transport services with the Governments of nine countries, and temporary arrangements for the same purpose with the Governments of ten others.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Britain is included among those nine countries?

Shri Khurshed Lal: As the hon. Member may have seen from press reports, a Delegation from the United Kingdom was here recently and they had negotiations with our Delegation. The two Delegations have arrived at an agreement which has been submitted to the respective Governments and is awaiting their ratification.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the names of the nine countries with whom we have agreements?

Shri Khurshed Lal: They are the United States of America, Netherlands, France, Sweden, Pakistan, Ceylon, Switzerland, Australia and the Philippines.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the names of countries with whom such agreements are going to be negotiated?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am afraid I cannot give the names of countries who will enter into a bilateral agreement with us. We have some temporary agreements with ten countries and if the hon. Member wishes I can give him the names of those countries.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the names of those countries?

Shri Khurshed Lal: They are Italy, Egypt, Thailand, Norway, Burma, Denmark, Iran, Ethiopia, Canada and U.K.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Air India International which is a Company in which Government has invested some money, will be allowed under these agreements, to operate services to the countries mentioned by the hon. Minister?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The agreement contemplates granting of licence to a Company designated by our Government and the other Government. If

the flights are to the West then Air India International will come in. If they are to the East, some other Company, e.g., the Bharat, will come in.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the terms of agreement concluded with these nine countries are uniform, or different in each case.

Shri Khurshed Lal: The broad pattern is the same; particular circumstances have called for variation also.

FOOD PROCUREMENT

***1470. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed by the Government of India for procurement during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and the actual procurement of various food grains made in the different States of the Indian Union;

(b) the procurement prices of various food grains fixed during these years and the extent of disparity existing between such prices and the prices prevailing in the market both in the deficit and surplus areas;

(c) what percentage the procured food grains did bear to the total produce during these years; and

(d) the prices at which the procured food grains were sold to the consumers?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement showing the targets and the actual procurement by each State during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 33.]

(b) and (d). Two statements (i) showing the procurement and issue prices of foodgrains and (ii) average whole-sale prices of major cereals in the years 1948, 1949, and 1950 are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 34.]

(c) The percentage of total procurement to total production in each of the three years ending 1950 was as follows:

1948	5·8 per cent.
1949	10·8 per cent.
1950	10·2 per cent.

1948 was the year of decontrol.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the Government of India determines the procurement price, or it is done by the State Governments?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The State Governments are generally consulted before the Government of India fix these prices.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Do the prices fixed vary from State to State or is it uniform for all the States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It slightly varies from State to State.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it a fact that the difference between the procurement and issue prices (except in the case of Assam and Bombay) varies from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5 per maund while the disparity in the case of the two provinces which I have mentioned is only Rs. 1 to 2.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not sure about the inference of the hon. Member that the difference between the procurement and issue price is as much as Rs. 5 to 10 per maund. But there are certain local conditions which are responsible for this disparity.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what is the policy of the Government in respect of procurement—to procure the surplus produce of the agriculturist after leaving with him enough for his annual requirements, or to procure the requisite quantity irrespective of his requirements?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Generally the policy is to procure after leaving the requirements of the cultivator.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether there is a levy system in operation in some States for procurement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, there are several systems obtaining in several States. But we are trying to bring them on a uniform basis.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know the name of the State where the percentage of the procured food-grains to the total production has been the largest?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is the State from which the hon. Member hails.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if the Government has been able to devise any uniform policy of procurement—either a type of enforced levy, or monopoly purchase system—for the whole of the country?

Shri Thirumala Rao: During the last conference of Food Ministers held in August it was agreed that an almost uniform system of procurement should be adopted, but since then there were so many difficulties in the way that this system could not be implemented

Sardar Sochet Singh: Arising out of reply to part (c), may I know what is the percentage of rationed population to the total population of the country?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think it is about 30 per cent.

Shri M. L. Gupta: Is it not a fact that the disparity between the procurement and issue prices is Rs. 8 in Uttar Pradesh, Rs. 5 in Hyderabad and Re. 1 in Bombay? Is it not a fact that this difference of prices is due to the Government policy of giving more subsidy to Bombay and less to other States?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

MECHANISATION OF FARMING

*1471. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how far mechanisation of farming has been introduced since the launching of campaign for food self-sufficiency; and

(b) what steps are being taken to rehabilitate the cultivators who will become surplus on account of mechanisation of farming?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The Government of India do not pursue mechanisation of agriculture as an end in itself. The policy is not compulsorily to mechanise, because under the existing conditions of agricultural land tenure, it is not considered that complete mechanisation of agriculture is either feasible or desirable for maintaining or increasing the yields.

On the other hand, the Government of India recognise that in certain parts of India conditions exist where shortage of bullocks and labour, and in some cases desirability of deep tillage beyond the capacity of bullocks, make it necessary to use power for tillage operations. Also, in the case of almost all crops and in almost all areas in India, provision of mechanical power for pumping water would increase yields.

In order that cultivators, on whose land the above conditions exist, may mechanise and produce more food per unit area, the Government of India allow importation and supply of means for mechanised agriculture, such as tractors, tractor-drawn implements, engines and pumps, on a liberal basis.

No statistics are available as to the extent to which this policy has resulted in mechanisation of farming. It is known that tractors in largely increased numbers are being imported and sold. It is not, however, known what percentage of agricultural production is now effected through mechanical means.

(b) As explained in the reply to part (a) of the question, there has been no general drive for mechanization and hence no problem of labour becoming surplus has arisen.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: In view of the policy just narrated, do Government propose to introduce or adopt the policy under which tractors are sold only to those individuals who use it for breaking virgin land or to co-operative societies only?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Government are prepared to sell tractors to both the varieties of people mentioned by the hon. Member.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : ऐसे किसानों की तादाद, जो इस तरह से अलग हो जायेंगे, जानने की कोई कोशिश गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से की जा रही है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Are the Government trying to ascertain the number of those cultivators who are likely to become surplus as a result of that?]

Mr. Speaker: He is enquiring about the units which are likely to be separated from cultivation—that is how I understood it.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, Land Tenure system primarily concerns the State Governments. They have to make any reform so that agriculture is made more worth while.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : इन रियासतों में ऐसी कौन कौन सी रियासतें हैं जहां मेकेनाइजेशन आफ फार्मिंग की ज्यादा प्रगति हो रही है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** What are those States where mechanisation of farming is being developed?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: There are two varieties of this activity. Where the Government are trying to till up uncultivated lands they are using these tractors. Also, there are certain big areas like the Punjab where big landowners are buying the tractors for their cultivation.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : इस तरह के बहुत से जमीदार हैं जिन की खुदकाश्त बहुत बड़ी है और वह ज्यादातर इस तरह की मशीनों को लगा लगा कर खेती कर रहे हैं। इस तरह से हैजारों किसान बेदखल किये जा रहे हैं। इस बात को रोकने के लिये क्या कदम उठाया जा रहा है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** There are many such land owners who are putting under cultivation huge plots of land themselves and are mostly using these agricultural machines for cultivation. In this way thousands of cultivators are being ejected. What steps are being taken to prevent this?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India are keeping in view the necessity of consolidating agricultural holdings as an effective means for food sufficiency?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think he is making a suggestion and also entering into arguments.

Sardar Sochet Singh: What aid, financial or technical, has the Government given or proposes to give to those engaged in private mechanized farming in the various States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: State Governments as also the Central Government are maintaining certain central workshops where mechanical repairs are effected to the tractors used in those zones, and certain trained personnel like drivers are also being provided. In certain areas where people want to buy tractors, *taccavi* loans are also being given.

Seth Govind Das: Out of these mechanized farms, have Government received any reports whether some farms are co-operative farms and, if not, is any effort being made to make these farms co-operative farms?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have not got any information with regard to co-operative farms, but the co-operative movement is under the control of the State Governments.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

I might just invite the attention of hon. Members that the idea is to put through as many Questions as possible and put in more supplementaries on matters of importance, without carrying on an argument. Otherwise I am sure even one hour will not be sufficient to take up the first two or three Questions.

An Hon. Member: On important questions.....

Mr. Speaker: I want to invite their attention to the fact that if they persist in putting more supplementaries, the result will be that a large number of Questions will have to go without supplementaries. I do not sit in judgment whether particular questions are important or not, but when I see from the trend of supplementaries that important information is being asked for, certainly I allow questions, from that point of view. Hon. Members will remember, for example, that at the time the Question about D.V.C. was answered I allowed supplementaries for a period of about fifteen minutes or so; similarly about the fertilizers also. But the trend appears to be to enter into an argument about the policy, which is not the chief objective of putting questions. Questions are intended for eliciting information and not for entering into arguments about the policy, which should or should not be improved. Therefore, I just try to see what is coming out and, when I feel that arguments, inferences and suggestions are coming, I have to proceed to the next question. That is the general way in which I am dealing with these questions. Therefore, now, next question, Mr. Velayudhan.

Shri Sidhva: You are perfectly right in what you have stated, Sir, and in this matter exactly like the D.V.C. and the fertilizer I wanted to put a question whether there have been government-owned tractors. A committee has been appointed ...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is again trying to go into something which is unattached to the Question at issue.

Shri Sidhva: Mechanization, Sir.

Sardar Sochet Singh: Sir, I suggest that those questions having a bearing on food problems should be given a little more time.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, on these Questions about food, I have been giving more time consistently, and even today I have allowed a large number of supplementaries. But that does not mean that I should, or that I can, even if I should, satisfy the urge of every Member to put in supplementaries to bring in every possible

aspect. That means everyday, when the food question comes, it becomes a food debate. No doubt the food question is very critical and it is very important. But it is difficult to accept that kind of position. We must understand the chief objective of the Question Hour which is to gather as much information as possible within the time at our disposal. That is how I am proceeding.

Next question, Mr. Velayudhan.

Food Bonus Scheme

*1472. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state when the Bonus Scheme for Grow More Food was introduced in the States?

(b) In what manner is the Bonus distributed to the cultivators?

(c) Is coupon system introduced in some States for the Bonus?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) It was decided on 1st October, 1948, that food production schemes in States would be financed from Food Procurement Bonus available with them.

(b) The Food Bonus is actually paid by the Government of India to the State Governments and not to the cultivators direct. Subsidies are, however, given to the cultivators by the State Governments out of this Bonus under Grow More Food Schemes in the form of cash and in kind (i.e., supply of seeds, fertilisers etc. at reduced rates).

(c) The Government of India have no information about the coupon system.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government is aware that there is coupon system in the Madras State?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir, in certain parts of Madras State coupons are issued by the Government to be converted into cash or to be used for the purchase of fertilizers at controlled rate to the ryots direct.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is the hon. Minister aware that coupons have been distributed to people who are not actual cultivators?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of it.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know if the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture himself stated in the Madras Legislature that they had been distributed to non-cultivators?

Shri Thirumala Rao: That is entirely administered by the State Government. My hon. friend can put the question to the Madras Government.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी को यह पता है या नहीं कि आठ रुपये के भाव में तो प्रोक्योरमेंट किया गया है, सोलह रुपये में सरकार बेचती है जब कि बाज़ार का भाव बत्तीस रुपये का है ? इस बारे में कोई नीति स्पष्ट नहीं की गई है कि किसानों से कम भाव पर ले कर ज्यादा भाव में सरकार बेचे ।

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that procurement has been made at the rate of eight rupees and the Government are selling at the rate of sixteen rupees while the market rate is thirty-two rupees? This policy has not been made clear that the Government may sell at a price higher than that they have paid to the cultivators.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کل کتنا بونس دیا جا چکا ہے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** How much Bonus has so far been distributed?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: The statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 40.] It is about Rs. 7,78,41,184.

Mr. Speaker: It is more than Rs. 7 crores.

Shri Poonacha: Is it a fact that in respect of Part C States, so far as the spending of the food bonus amount is concerned, the sanction of the Government of India was received very late, and the time fixed for the entire spending of the bonus is end of March 1951 so much so it is absolutely impossible for some of the States to utilize the food bonus amount?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It all depends on the time when the actual proposals from these State Governments are received.

Shri Poonacha: May I ask in particular whether the scheme for the spending of the bonus amount from Coorg reached the Central Government as far back as September, 1950?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for that.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the principle by which these subsidies are given to the cultivators?

Shri Thirumala Rao: With regard to a certain supply of fertilizers which are not popular to the cultivators these schemes were subsidised and the subsidy was made by these bonuses.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: How much money has been advanced to the Punjab State as bonus?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In 1948-49 it was Rs. 12,92,000 and in 1949-50 Rs. 75 lakhs. The total received was Rs. 87,95,000.

Shri Poonacha: May I ask whether the Government would be prepared to extend the time at least up to end of 1951 for the spending of this food bonus amount in the different Part C. States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We will examine the question.

Castor Seed Cake

*1474. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any plan to utilise castor seed cake other than for fertilisers; and

(b) if so, what are these new schemes?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Chief Judicial Commissioner of Vindhya Pradesh

*1475. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Chief Judicial Commissioner of Vindhya Pradesh recently transferred to that area is a person who does not know Hindi?

(b) What facilities of interpretation have Government provided for non-English knowing litigants and under-trials who have no means of employing the services of *vakils* for pleading their cases?

(c) Are the copies of judgment given to the applicants in Hindi or in English?

(d) In case the copies of judgments are available in Hindi, are the applicants required to pay translation fees also?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No, Sir. The Judicial Commissioner, Vindhya Pradesh, knows Hindi very well.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As judgments are written in English copies also are given in English.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Dwivedi: May I remind the hon. Minister about the assurance given in this House to my Starred Question in the last session that litigants will be given copies of judgments in Hindi and what has happened to that assurance?

Shri Gopalaswami: Under the Constitution judgments are supposed to be written in English and that practice has been followed here. If the copies of judgments in English are asked for, they are given in English.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if Government are following the traditions of the judiciary in Vindhya Pradesh where judgments were being given in Hindi until it became a Centrally Administered area?

Shri Gopalaswami: We conform to the Constitution.

Grow More Food Campaign

*1477. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the total expenditure incurred by Government during last three years in Grow More Food Campaign and what portion of the same has been spent through various State Governments as aids to them for the said purposes?

(b) What is the total acreage of land brought under cultivation by this scheme?

(c) What is the quantity of wheat, paddy and other cereals produced on this acreage?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement giving the actual expenditure incurred on Grow More Food Scheme during 1948-49 and amounts sanctioned for 1949-50 and 1950-51 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 35.] Information regarding the actual expenditure incurred during 1949-50 and 1950-51 is not available yet.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the lands reclaimed during 1948-49 and

1949-50 and targets of land reclamation during 1950-51 and the estimated additional production is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 36.] Information regarding grain-wise break-up of additional production is not available. These figures are of course exclusive of lands benefited from other items of the Grow More Food Campaign regarding distribution of fertilisers and seeds financing of irrigation facilities etc.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I ask whether it is a fact that the State of Bihar has recently asked for a loan or subsidy from the Government of India to meet the serious food situation prevailing in that State?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I do not think that arises out of this question.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the method of arriving at increased estimated production?

Shri Thirumala Rao: That has been explained more than once on the floor of this House that all the States are organizing a sort of sample survey extensively and through that they are arriving at as near a correct solution as possible.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Has the Government compared the production of the particular seed before and after this increased production under the Grow More Food scheme?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. We have been asking the States to assess what extra production was achieved on account of these activities and we are getting the information from the States.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: I asked the question whether the Central Government compared it with the previous amount.

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have replied more than once based on these comparisons that we are expecting 17 lakh tons of extra production this year.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Are any figures maintained of the land which goes out of cultivation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. It has to be done by the State Governments, if they want.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of answer to part (b) of the question may I ask whether with the average increased cultivation the yield has also increased.

Shri Thirumala Rao: With regard to lands that are freshly brought there is no question of increasing the yield but with regard to lands getting good seed, good water supply and fertilisers, there they will have an improved yield and that is being assessed.

Shri Sidhva: May I know if there has been a yield all round or less yield?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I cannot understand the question. There is an increased yield when the advantageous conditions are given to the land which is already under cultivation.

Mr. Speaker: The question itself leads to confusion, to my mind.

Shri Sidhva: If the cultivation is increased, may I know at the same time, in view of the production, whether the yield has been increased all round the whole year.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants separate figures as to what the increase is in the case of the increased area under cultivation and the increased yield in the land on account of fertilisers and other facilities.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got separate figures for all the States.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the Grow More Food policy has been modified recently and whether more attention is being paid to intensive cultivation now?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. From the beginning attention is paid to intensive cultivation, by giving seeds, water-supply and fertilisers.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With reference to my Supplementary question, may I know whether the Government of India have issued any instructions to the States to inform the Government of India with regard to the acreage which goes out of cultivation every year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government of India have drawn attention of the States to this problem, namely, that lands that were already under cultivation are going out of cultivation. There are certain States which have passed legislation. For instance, Mysore has just passed a law that if land-owners do not cultivate the lands, Government will take possession of the lands and put them under cultivation and Madras have also published a similar Bill.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if the Government of India is maintaining figures about the State of Delhi?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that the land brought under cultivation is only a fraction of the land which goes out of cultivation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: That we have not compared.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Is it a fact that in parts of the country the tenants who are getting this new land in order to retain it, cultivate that land and leave the old land uncultivated?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We would enquire if the hon. Member wants.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the Government of India has any information as to which of the States in India has achieved the best results in intensive cultivation, and what has been the increase in the production per acre or biga in such States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Recently, when the annual meeting of the Governing body of the I.C.A.R. was opened by the President, he gave the prize for the best producer in the country, to East Bengal, who produced 48 maunds an acre. I am personally aware, Sir, that there are certain areas in Godavari and Krishna Districts which produce 80 or 90 maunds an acre.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: From East Bengal?

Shri Thirumala Rao: From West Bengal; I am sorry.

Food Requirements of States

***1478. Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the States have submitted their requirements of food during 1951-52?

(b) If so, what are the requirements of the various States and how far do the Centre propose to meet those requirements?

(c) What will be the tonnage of foodgrains that will have to be imported during 1951-52 and of what value?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) States have furnished their estimates of requirements of foodgrains from the Centre for Calendar year 1951.

(b) A statement showing the demand of each State and the quota fixed for 1951 is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) As at present planned we propose to import 3·7 million tons of foodgrains valued at Rs. 160 crores during the calendar year 1951. It is difficult to foresee with any degree of accuracy what imports will be required in 1952.

STATEMENT

The Demand and Allocations of food in various States for 1951.

(In '000 Tons)

State	Total demand	Net import quota
Assam	145	24
Bihar	1,105	600
Bombay	1,025	700
Madhya Pradesh	377	200
Madras	736*	400
Uttar Pradesh	399	200
West Bengal	607	400
Hyderabad	169	75
Jammu and Kashmir	40	20
Mysore	174	75
Rajasthan	80	..
Saurashtra	108	50
Travancore-Cochin	526	325
Ajmer	47	35
Delhi	226	196
Kutch	60	20
Vindhya Pradesh	9	..
Others	250	250
TOTAL	6,083	3,570

* Since raised to 10 lakh tons.

Shri Kamath: With regard to the question of food requirements, has the Minister got any figures to show the damage that is caused to the procured grain owing to bad storage, and damage by rats and other vermin?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I do not know if it arises out of this question. This question has been answered more than once. All precautions are being taken. Sufficient provisions within the

means of the State Governments are made to meet the menace of rats and pests. Storage accommodation is being insisted upon by the Central Government. Certain States are building up their godowns.

Shri Kamath: During the last year, was the damage more or less than in the previous years?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Last year's damage may not be more than the previous year's.

Shri Satish Chandra: Is it a fact that famine conditions have been declared in certain eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh and are Government rushing any supplies to that area? Have the Central Government made certain additional allotments to meet the famine conditions there?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of the fact that famine conditions have been declared. I want notice.

Shri P. Y. Deshpande: May I know whether it is a fact that the Viet Nam Government offered one lakh tons of rice to be distributed in the deficit areas in India and that that offer was refused?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No; I do not think there is any basis for that information.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what is the percentage of the quota allotted to the various States in proportion to the total demand?

Shri Thirumala Rao: That has to be computed. I have got figures for demand and allotment.

Shri Rudrappa: In determining the quantity of food imports for 1951-52, on what basis has calculation been made: is it on the basis of 9 oz. or 12 oz?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The States calculate uniformly on the basis of 12 oz. and put up their demands to the Central Government. The Central Government has to allot on the basis of the availability and the capacity of the Centre to buy the grains.

Shri M. C. Shah: May I know whether the hon. Minister has also taken into consideration the 2 million tons of foodgrains to be given by America to India, when he calculated this figure of 3·7 million tons for imports?

Shri Thirumala Rao: That never entered into our calculation of imports for 1951.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the estimated yield of the rabi crop this year in U.P. and Bihar?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are awaiting reports from the State Governments with regard to the estimates.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

AIR MAIL

*1479. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the percentage of letters and cards carried by air mail to places covered by air services?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): The weight of letters and postcards carried partly or wholly by air during 1949-50 formed nearly 27·5 per cent. of the total weight of letters and postcards.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : यह जो चिट्ठियां और पोस्ट कार्ड वायुयान से गये हैं यह किन किन शहरों को गये है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know the names of those cities to which these letters and postcards have been carried by air mail?]

श्री खुशैद लाल : जिन जिन शहरों में हवाई जहाज जाते हैं उन उन शहरों में यह वायुयान से गये हैं और वहां से जिन जगहों को रेल से जाते हैं वहां यह रेल से भेजे जाते हैं ।

[**Shri Khurshed Lal:** They have been carried by airmail to all those cities that are covered by air services. From there they are sent by railway to places which are connected by rail to that city.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इनके वायुयान से जाने के कारण रेलवे को कितना नुकसान हुआ और जो प्राइवेट कम्पनियां इन को वायुयान से ले गईं उनको कितना रुपया गवर्नमेंट द्वारा दिया गया ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** What amount of loss has been incurred by the Railway as a result of sending these letters by airmail and what is the amount of money paid by the Government to those private companies who carried them by air?]

श्री खुशैद लाल : रेलवे को तो कोई नुकसान नहीं हुआ और कम्पनियों को जो

रुपया दिया गया उस की तादाद में पहले दे चुका हूं, इस वक्त मुझे याद नहीं है ।

[**Shri Khurshed Lal:** There has been no loss to the Railway. I have already stated the amount of money paid to the companies. I do not remember it now.]

सेठ गोविंद दास : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जब रेलवे से चिट्ठियां और पोस्टकार्ड जाते थे उस वक्त क्या रेलवे को इनके ले जाने से कोई फायदा नहीं होता था ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know whether the Railway had not been gaining any revenue when letters and postcards were used to be sent by rail?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; that is an argument.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister said, Sir, that there is no loss to Government. May I know whether, had these letters been sent by rail, it would not have been a gain to Government?

Mr. Speaker: That is an argument; that is not asking for information.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether the Railway continue to receive the same revenue from the carriage of postal letters and postcards as they used to, before the introduction of the air mail?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That is exactly what I answered.

SUGAR MILLS

*1480. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how many sugar mills have been allowed to sell their produce in free market according to the new policy?

(b) What is the quantity so allowed to be sold by these mills?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) No factory has so far completed production of its basic quota and therefore been permitted to sell its sugar in the open market.

(b) The question does not arise.

JET-COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE

*1482. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is shortly to have purely jet-commercial Air Service linking it with other parts of the Commonwealth;

(b) the date from which the service is likely to start; and

(c) the estimate of expenditure to be incurred on this enterprise?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) No Indian air line has yet made any proposals to introduce jet-propelled aircraft on its services.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

DELHI BUS SERVICES

*1484. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bus stops, compulsory or by request, on all the bus routes between Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) the number of roofed shelters that have been provided for waiting passengers at these stops;

(c) why there are still many stops without such shelters; and

(d) how long it will take for such shelters to be built at all these stops?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 211.

(b) to (d). I regret that the Delhi Road Transport Authority has not made much progress with the construction of passenger shelters. They have been negotiating with a Calcutta firm, experienced in this type of work, for putting up shelters free of cost to the Authority in return for free advertisement rights at the shelters. A model shelter has already been erected by this firm, but this has been found to be inadequate and a revised design is under discussion.

Shri Kamath: What exactly is the cost of a model shelter?

Shri Santhanam: At present, the intention is to construct free of cost in exchange for advertisement rights. So, the question of estimated cost does not arise.

Shri Kamath: What are the reasons that made Government take up the question of roofed shelters so many months after the DTS began to function?

Shri Santhanam: The hon. Member knows the condition in which the D.T.S. had to be taken up. First, the more essential question of operation

had to be considered before we came to shelters.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the statement of the hon. Minister several times, may I know whether any steps have been taken to reduce the fares on these buses?

Shri Santhanam: The hon. Member knows that spare parts have increased in price and the cost of operation has gone up. The Delhi Transport Authority are considering this question.

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand that Government has dropped the idea of reducing the fares?

Shri Santhanam: It is not a question for the Government. The House has entrusted the whole thing to the Delhi Transport Authority.

Shri Kamath: Is the Government aware that during the last summer some passengers at these stops fainted owing to heat stroke, and if so, may I know whether Government propose to build these shelters before next summer?

Shri Santhanam: I have no information about this fainting business. I shall draw the attention of the Delhi Transport Authority to it.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the Transport Authority intend to build some shelters itself or leave it to different firms alone to build them?

Shri Santhanam: The present idea is that one firm will build these 17 shelters in exchange for advertisement rights.

Mr. Speaker: I think we have dealt enough with this local problem. Next question.

SUPPLEMENTARY FOODS

*1485. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the measures that have been adopted by Government so far towards increasing the production and consumption of supplementary foods; and

(b) what measure of success has attended these efforts?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 37.]

Shri Kamath: What steps have been taken by Government to publicise throughout the country the results of the Supplementary Foods Exhibition held in Delhi, a few months ago?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The publication of the recipes that were made popular in that Exhibition was the main item. Pamphlets are printed and distributed through the Women's Food Councils all over India.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is castor cake used as supplementary food?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister need not reply.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Arising out of part (b) may I ask what percentage of our food deficit has been met by success in this subsidiary food campaign?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The target is to meet the whole deficit by subsidiary foods.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: May I know what percentage of the deficit in our food supply is expected to be reduced by this method?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have not computed it, Sir.

Shri Sidhva: Regarding sweet potato which was introduced as a supplementary food, may I know to what extent it has gone to meet our food shortage and how much money has been spent by Government on this proposal?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sometime back Government made a lump-sum grant for investigations connected with subsidiary food. But the committee dealing with it was abolished and the remaining portion of the grant was withdrawn. But my information which some friends from Bihar have given me is that there the sweet potato tubers are grown on a very large scale and this has been found useful in meeting the food scarcity today.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know what progress has been made in the experiment to produce rice out of tapioca powder?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Government of Travancore-Cochin have got a pilot plant for Rs. 50,000 to make rice out of tapioca and they are getting on with it.

Shri Kamath: Have Government got any concrete plan for popularising non-vegetarian as well as vegetarian supplementary foods?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, if fish is considered non-vegetarian, Government have schemes for the development of fisheries.

CANADIAN WHEAT FOR INDIA

*1486. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Canada is prepared to send more shipments of wheat over and above the agreed quota under the International Wheat Agreement to meet the food shortage in India; and

(b) if so, whether any direct approach to Canada was made for this purpose by the Government of India and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). There is no restriction in Canada on the purchase of wheat outside the International Wheat Agreement. It is a matter of buying at the officially fixed day to day prices. In October 1950 India purchased 3,00,000 tons from Canada under the International Wheat Agreement which are being still shipped. Further quantities of Canadian wheat will be purchased as and when required.

Shri Sivaprakasam: What is the total quantity of wheat import agreed upon under this Agreement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the present we have purchased 3 lakh tons. It is open to us to buy more under this Agreement, if we need it. And when we require more, we will buy it.

Shri Sidhva: May I know Sir, whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a recent news item from Canada, dated the 10th February in which it is said that Canada is still considering the problem of how to meet India's appeal for food. It says that Canada, however, has a great deal of low-grade wheat on hand and if India could make use of it as food for human beings, a gift would probably be made of it. May I know if Government's attention has been drawn to this and whether they are considering the question of importing this food from Canada unfit for human beings, even if it is given as a gift?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There seems to be some misconception. We can buy high-grade wheat under this Agreement and we need not go in for any low-grade wheat at all.

Shri Sidhva: But will the Government, if the offer is made...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, it is a problematic question and also a suggestion for action.

Shri Satish Chandra: May I know the stage at which the proposal to import more wheat from America now stands?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are purchasing wheat from the U. S. A. and the process of importing the wheat is going on.

Shri Satish Chandra: What about the additional two million tons of wheat which it is said, we are going to have from the U. S. A.?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have no information about that.

AERODROMES IN INDIA

*1487. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of civil aerodromes in India?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): There are 72 aerodromes under the control of the Civil Aviation Department, and 12 civil aerodromes of State Governments, which have been licensed or approved by Director General of Civil Aviation for regular use by aircraft.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the revenue derived from these aerodromes?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am afraid I would require notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: How many of these aerodromes are actually in use now?

Shri Khurshed Lal: There are some aerodromes which have regular services. There are some which serve as a stand-by, particularly for night services. So practically all the aerodromes we have are being used, though not in the sense that regular air services run on them every day.

Shri Kamath: How many civil aerodromes that were in use during the World War II have since been abandoned?

Shri Khurshed Lal: There was no civil aerodromes in use during the war which has now been abandoned.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have all these aerodromes got concrete runways?

Shri Khurshed Lal: They have runways, some have long ones and some have short ones.

CURRENT FALLOW LANDS

*1488. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the information sought in Starred Question No. 1400 put on the 4th April 1950 regarding current fallow lands in India has since been collected from the States;

(b) if so, whether the information will be placed on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, how much more time would be necessary for Government to collect the information?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement showing the information in respect of parts (a) and (c) of Starred Question No. 1400 asked by the hon. Member is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 38.]

The State Governments have regretted their inability to collect the information in respect of parts (b), (d) and (e) of the above referred question.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether Government have no information on these points since 1941-42?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It was stated that information would be collected from the State Governments; but the State Governments have said that they are not able to give answers to our questions, namely:

"(b) the extent of irrigated land under current fallows;

"(d) the area of land out of those 88·6 million acres which can be irrigated by projects which are now in progress; and

(e) the area of land out of the said 88·6 million acres which is being used as grazing or pasture land for cattle and sheep."

The State Governments have said that they cannot give the information.

Mr. Speaker: But the question is whether Government have no information for the period since 1941-1942.

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: What steps do Government propose to take to bring this area under cultivation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The usual steps that are necessary.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF MADHYA BHARAT AND RAJASTHAN

*1481. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether any audit of Public accounts of the Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan Governments has been made for the period 1949-50?

(b) If so, under whose supervision were the accounts audited?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The accounts of the Madhya Bharat Government were audited by the Accountant General, Madhya Bharat, under the general directions of the Auditor General of Madhya Bharat and the accounts of the Rajasthan Government were audited by the Accountant General, Rajasthan. These officers were under the control of the respective State Governments.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: During these audits, has it come to the notice of the auditing authorities that large sums of money had been spent which had not been provided for in the budget?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not think I have any information on that.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that large sums of money which were said to be provided in the budget were not actually provided?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have actually no information about the contents of the audit report.

Shri Ghule: Sir, is there any connection between the audit in Madhya Bharat and that in Rajasthan?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid I am unable to answer the question.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, what were the dates on which these audits were completed?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know if they were completed before the 1st of April, 1950. All audit after the 1st April 1950 is conducted by officers under the control of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, is there any truth in the press report that the State Ministry proposes to hold an enquiry against the last Ministry in Rajasthan as a result of the auditors' report?

Shri Gopalaswami: So far as I know that statement which I found in the newspapers the other day or to-day, is without foundation. In any case, it is outside my knowledge.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD PROCUREMENT

*1473. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether monopoly procurement is done by Government directly or through commission agents; and

(b) if through commission agents, what precautions or steps are taken by Government to ensure that Government get all the grains procured by such agents?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Monopoly procurement is done by Government either directly or through commission agents or through both the agencies. The actual method adopted varies from State to State according to the local conditions in each State. A statement is placed on the Table of the House indicating the system obtaining in the States. [*See* Appendix XI, annexure No. 39.]

(b) In the monopoly areas, commission agents appointed by the Government are prohibited from doing any transactions in controlled grains on private account. The Government also exercise supervision on the stocks held by such agents and stocks are moved only under the definite orders of the State Government.

TOURIST TRAFFIC

*1476. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what are the main recommendations of the travel consultant, Mr. Ennis Groom?

(b) Have any of his recommendations been accepted and if so, how far have they been implemented?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). While approving of the general lines on which development of tourist traffic is taking place in India, Mr. Groom made useful suggestions for the promotion of tourist traffic, under the following heads, among others:

(1) Publicity.

(2) Hotel accommodation.

(3) Guides.

(4) Organisation of Regional Tourist Offices.

(5) Entry regulations for foreign tourists.

(6) Train Travel.

Steps are being taken to implement the recommendations fully, except those relating to the removal of restrictions on certain foods and on the prices for rooms and meals at the hotels, operation of hotels directly by Government, deputation of specially trained officers abroad to attract tourists as it is not possible to implement them having regard to the present financial condition and the food position of the country.

RESTRICTIONS ON PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS

*1483. **Shri Bhatt:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are restrictions on passenger traffic by certain trains on all Railways;

(b) whether these restrictions vary from Railway to Railway;

(c) since when and with what object these restrictions are imposed;

(d) whether each Railway Administration consulted its Local Advisory Committees before imposing these restrictions and whether the Railway Board approved these, if so, whether the Central Advisory Council for Railways was consulted in the matter and when; and

(e) whether Government propose to examine or re-examine this question and lay down a uniform policy?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Presumably the hon. Member is referring to "distance restrictions" which individual railways find it necessary to impose in the interests of long distance passengers travelling by Mail and Express trains.

(b) Yes.

(c) The practice has been in force for more than 30 years, the object being to ensure the necessary convenience of long distance passengers on certain trains which would otherwise be overcrowded by short journey passengers.

(d) Railway Administrations are competent to impose such restrictions when the exigencies of traffic demand. Prior consultation with Local Advisory Committees, the Railway Board or the Central Advisory Council for Railways is not in these circumstances deemed necessary.

(e) The general policy in this matter is already uniform in as much as these restrictions are required to be reviewed by railways from time to time with the object of retaining only such as are essential. In view of the differing conditions on different railways, specific restrictions must, however, vary

IMPORT OF TRACTORS

***1489. Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the number of tractors imported from Britain and other foreign countries during the last twelve months?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): During the twelve months ending 31st December 1950, a total of 4042 tractors were imported into India from various countries as follows:

U. K.	.	2664 Nos.
U. S. A.	.	863 ,,
Czechoslovakia	.	212 ,,
W. Germany	.	184 ,,
Canada	.	69 ,,
France	.	25 ,,
Austria	.	13 ,,
Italy	.	6 ,,
Australia	.	4 ,,
Hungary	.	2 ,,
TOTAL		4042 Nos.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday 16th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HOUSES BUILT IN DELHI

***1490. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the total number of houses built in (a) Delhi and (b) New Delhi during the past five years by (i) Government (ii) Local Bodies and (iii) private individuals?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A statement containing the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 1.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: Considering the present population of Delhi and New Delhi and their anticipated growth during the next few years, have Government considered or formulated in consultation with the Planning Commission or otherwise any building programme for the next five or seven years?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Building programmes are always there for all the Ministries.

Shri Raj Kanwar: How many more houses are required to be built in Delhi to relieve the acute shortage of housing accommodation?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am afraid I am unable to give the exact number required.

Shri Raj Kanwar: At least the approximate number?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Have Government formed any estimate of the number of people in the country who are at present without roofed accommodation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. M. V. Ganbadhara Siva: May I know how many houses are built exclusively for the use of the menial servants of the various departments of Government and whether they are suitably accommodated with sanitary fittings and other comforts in accordance with the other buildings in New and Old Delhi which have been built by private individuals and big industrial concerns?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

گیانی جی - ایس مسافر : کیا یہ ٹھیک ھے کہ بہت سے ایسے لوگ جن کے پاس یہاں دھلی میں پلاٹس ھیں وہ بلڈنگ میٹیریل نہ ملنے کی وجہ سے مکان نہیں بنا سکے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Is it a fact that some persons possessing plots of lands in Delhi could not build houses thereupon due to unavailability of building materials?]

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : मुमकिन है कि ऐसा एक वक्त था। लेकिन मेरे ख्याल में आज तो यह सवाल नहीं उठता। बिल्डिंग मटीरियल मिल सकता है।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Possibly there was such a time. But, I think, today this question does not arise. The building material is available.]

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it a fact that the exorbitant charge made by the Government for the use of vacant lands within the compounds of existing buildings contributes to a great extent to the small number of houses being built in the City?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As a matter of fact that policy of the Government has been reversed. The difficulty was that people complained that they could not build within their compounds without incurring heavy expenditure and that has now been removed.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS

*1491. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any psychological test is held for recruitment of candidates to the higher services of the country, such as the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service, Indian Foreign Service, Ambassadorial appointments etc.;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how such test is conducted i.e. whether by means of written questions and answers or orally or by a psychological expert interviewing the candidates; and

(c) whether there is any psychological expert on the Union Public Service Commission?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No

Shri Raj Kanwar: Do Government propose to appoint any psychological expert on the Union Public Service Commission and also advise State Governments to do so?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question of selection by psychological tests has been before the Government for sometime and I might mention for the information of the hon. Member that at the end of the last war when the Special Civil Selection Board was operating to take on war service candidates the Defence Services psychological experts were utilised but now the position is different. Unless we wish to take the risk of a new kind of error we cannot appoint any competent psychological experts and take the consequences. We cannot also spend a vast amount of money to get people trained in psychological tests and get them back for the purpose of being utilised in the selection of service candidates. There is also the difficulty of the difference between the psychological tests necessary for this country and what would be satisfactory in other countries. Taking all these difficulties into consideration we have no intention either of appointing now an outsider or sending up people from our own country for being specially trained abroad for this purpose. That is the position.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Will the question be borne in mind for the future?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir. It is very much kept in mind. We know how unsatisfactory selections are.

Dr. Deshmukh: As an experiment will Government be pleased to start with the prospective Ministers and apply psychological tests to them before their appointments?

Shri Rajagopalachari: And for Parliament Members too!

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I must express my strong disapproval of questions making such insinuations.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether it is the information of the hon. Minister that there are no properly qualified psychologists in the country to be appointed on the Union Public Service Commission?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir. The opinion that we hold is that we do not have sufficiently qualified psychological experts who can be well utilised for this purpose.

Shri Kamath: After selection to various services are the probationers put through a course in human and social psychology?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Those who are selected are made to go through practical courses applicable to the cadre which they have to join. If anyone is to be appointed for psychological or social work of course he will go through such a course.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the psychological tests mentioned by the hon. Minister is the same as the intelligence co-efficient tests which were carried out and if so, may I know whether there is any arrangement in the U.P.S.C. to conduct these intelligence co-efficient tests?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There is first of all the intelligence test. Then there is in the scheme of psychological tests, a certain group of practical experimental tests which are gone through for sometime. They are not merely intelligence tests but also relate to temperament, capacity to govern or rule, get work done and the like. There are several things which go to make up the psychological tests.

Rev. D'Souza: Are we to take it from the hon. Minister's statement that there is evidence that this method of psychological tests has been proved to be genuine and effective and therefore when men are available they would apply the tests? If so, are

they aware that in applying them in regard to army selections a great deal of dissatisfaction was expressed in England and elsewhere and that the answer is not so conclusive as it may appear?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The hon. Member has put it fairly correctly. This matter is still in all countries a subject of controversy, experiment, trial and error. We are awaiting the result. Luckily we are still awaiting the result and not doing anything in this direction. We are also enforced by principles of economy and by the actual fact that we have not trained men available in our country. The Government is aware of the fact that it is not quite a settled matter even in foreign countries where the experiment has been tried. In fact in England they are now comparing the results of the normal written and oral tests with the psychological tests in different batches and we are still awaiting the result.

STATE INVESTMENTS

*1492. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the investments of the Government of India in commercial concerns, Industrial concerns and Corporations in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) how many of these have been bringing any profit and how many are incurring loss; and

(c) how many of these are in fully State-owned establishments, how many are in limited companies and how many are in the forms of corporations?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). The information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are any of the concerns started by Government going to be converted into limited companies?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think one is already a limited company, namely the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. The others will also be gradually converted into limited companies.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will any private money be taken when they are converted into limited companies?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No.

Mr. Speaker: This matter was pursued sometime ago last week and a number of questions on this point were answered.

Shri A. C. Guha: Not exactly on this point.

Mr. Speaker: It may not be exactly on this point but generally the points of enquiry now covered. I believe it was the Finance Minister who answered them.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I answered a good many questions on this matter. The answer to this particular question is that there will be no outside capital in these companies.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether and in what manner financial control is exercised on these State enterprises or corporations?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: In two ways: (i) they will be receiving directives from Government and (ii) a representative of the Finance Ministry will be associated with the day to day work of management, on the boards or other managing bodies of these companies.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: May I know what is the nature of the commercial concerns which the Government runs?

What commerce do they carry on?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, I said that information is being collected. The last few questions that I answered were about industrial enterprises. The scope of this question is wider.

Shri A. C. Guha: May we know when we can expect the full answer to this question?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It should not take very long to collect the information, although the notice was not quite long enough to enable me to place it before the House today.

IMPERIAL BANK

*1493. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what have been the Government payments to the Imperial Bank year by year from 1940 to 1949?

(b) What was the cost to the Imperial Bank for handling and managing Government money?

(c) On what basis or terms these payments have been made?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement showing the remuneration paid under paragraph 5 (a) of the Agreement and also the payments made under paragraph 6 of the Agreement for maintenance of a minimum number of branches to the Imperial Bank of India by the Reserve Bank of India and also the estimated cost to the

Imperial Bank of India of conducting Government business during the years 1940 to 1949 is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 2.]

(c) In accordance with the Agreement concluded between the Reserve Bank of India and the Imperial Bank of India (in terms of section 45 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, read with the Third Schedule thereto), during the first ten years of the Agreement, the remuneration to the Imperial Bank of India was on the following scale:

At 1/16th of 1 per cent. on the first 250 crores of rupees and

At 1/32nd of 1 per cent. on the remainder of the total of the receipts and disbursements dealt with annually on account of Government by the Imperial Bank on behalf of the Reserve Bank.

This scale was revised in 1945 in terms of the provisions of paragraph 5(a) of the Agreement and the scale fixed for the quinquennium (1945 to 1950) was as follows:

On the first 150 crores, at 1/16th of 1 per cent.

On the next 150 crores over 150 crores, at 1/32nd of 1 per cent.

On the next 300 crores over 300 crores, at 1/64th of 1 per cent.

On the remainder of the total of receipts and disbursements dealt with annually on account of Government by the Imperial Bank on behalf of the Reserve Bank, at 1/128th of 1 per cent.

In addition, under para. 6 of the Agreement, the Imperial Bank of India is also entitled to the following payments in consideration for the maintenance of branches not less in number than those existing at the time the Agreement came into force:

(i) during the first five years of this agreement—nine lakhs of rupees per annum;
(ii) during the next five years of the agreement—six lakhs of rupees per annum; and
(iii) during the next five years of the agreement—four lakhs of rupees per annum.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the total amount of Government money handled by the Imperial Bank in these years?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I take it that the question is in regard to turnover of Government transactions on which this is based?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is as follows:

1940	...	Rs. 326 crores.
1941	...	Rs. 416 crores.
1942	...	Rs. 620 crores.
1943	...	Rs. 1013 crores.
1944	...	Rs. 1166 crores.
1945	...	Rs. 1210 crores.
1946	...	Rs. 1143 crores.
1947	...	Rs. 1122 crores.
1948	...	Rs. 1020 crores.
1949	...	Rs. 1092 crores.

Shri A. C. Guha: From the statement laid on the Table it appears that from 1946 the loss incurred by the Imperial Bank in handling the Government money has been increasing. Before 1946 there was a net profit but since 1946 the loss incurred increased from one lakh to ten lakhs. What is the reason for this increase in the cost for handling the Government money?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The pay scales have gone up and the remuneration of staff has gone up on account of awards and so on. All that, I have no doubt, is reflected in their costs.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that this loss is mainly due to the rise in the administrative expenses?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is right. I may add that these figures are checked by arrangement with the Auditor-General every year.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any interest is earned by Government on the amounts that have been invested with the Imperial Bank?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Government has no amount invested with the Imperial Bank.

Shri Sidhva: What about the current balances?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No. Government maintains an account with the Reserve Bank.

Shri Sidhva: Where there is no branch of the Reserve Bank and there is a branch of the Imperial Bank, the Imperial Bank does handle some money of the Government. Do they pay interest on such amounts?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No interest is received on treasury balances which are kept with the Imperial Bank.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any agreement on the part of the Government to compensate the loss of the Imperial Bank in handling Government money?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no question of compensation. Once an agreement is made, then the Imperial Bank stands to gain or lose according as their costs are arranged and according as the transaction develops. In the first five years they had a large fortuitous profit and in the subsequent years they are incurring a smaller loss.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: In view of the admission made by the hon. Minister that the Imperial Bank has been incurring losses on account of the recent awards, may I know whether Government have considered the adverse effect of the award on other banks, and if so are any steps being taken by Government to meet the same?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think the losses are not comparable. Here there is a loss on a particular agreement, whereas the question raised by the hon. Member is in regard to losses, if any, which are incurred by banks in their general operation. In the first place it is not quite clear that they are incurring any losses.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether there is a proposal before the Government to convert some of the State Banks of Part C States into branches of the Imperial Bank of India?

Shri C. D. Desmukh: No, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: From the statement laid on the Table it appears that the expenditure incurred by the Imperial Bank in 1947 was Rs. 23 lakhs, in 1948 it was Rs. 27 lakhs and in 1949 Rs. 32 lakhs. The hon. Minister has stated that there is a periodic check by the Government. Is the Government satisfied that this abnormal rise in that expenditure was justified?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Well, this is a matter of record. No greater amount is paid to them, than is payable under the scale agreed upon, because of the increase in expenditure.

Shri A. C. Guha: My point was not the payment made but the rise in the expenditure of the Imperial Bank in handling Government of India money. There has been an abnormal rise: from 23 lakhs to 27 lakhs and from 27 to 32 lakhs in three consecutive years.

Mr. Speaker: I do not understand his question. Under the agreement the Government are bound to pay something to the Imperial Bank irrespective of the cost incurred by the Bank.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is right, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: If that is right, then how does the question of the increase in costs affect the Government?

Shri A. C. Guha: It may not affect the Government directly but it affects the nation because 80 per cent. of the shares are held by Indians.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That aspect is far remote.

Spurious Drugs

*1494. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state what is the approximate quantity and value of spurious drugs manufactured in India during the year 1950?

(b) What are the principal drugs which have been so manufactured?

(c) Do Government intend to modify the Act relating to the drugs with the object of making the Penal Clause more stringent?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) As the manufacture of spurious drugs is carried on surreptitiously, the hon. Member will appreciate that it is not possible to know the quantity and value of spurious drugs manufactured in the country during any period.

(b) A statement giving the names of drugs spuriously manufactured in this country which have so far been detected by the Drugs Standard Control authorities in some of the States is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 3].

(c) Yes. Certain amendments to the Drugs Act, 1940 are under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: The statement annexed to the answer contains a list of 26 items, which include drugs like Penicillin, Gripe Water, Quinine tablets, etc. May I know what steps have been taken by the Government to stop the manufacture of these drugs spuriously? Has Government's attention been drawn to the fact that as recently as Friday last a factory manufacturing spurious drugs (including Gripe Water, which is given to children) was unearthed in Delhi? May I know when Government intend to bring this amendment to the Act: will it be during this session? Is it not already overdue?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: All the State Governments have been warned about the manufacture of spurious drugs and wherever possible raids are made. Both in Delhi and in Bombay certain gang of men—we might say—have been discovered doing this. The Drugs Act is applied as far as possible. The Act is in force in all the States and Centrally Administered Areas. We are now trying to strengthen the administrative machinery. That is all that can be done.

Shri Sidhva: Will the amendment be brought during this session?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As soon as possible.

Shri Sidhva: Is Government aware of the fact that the All-India Pharmaceutical Conference passed a resolution that the Pharmaceutical Act and the Drugs Act must be amended immediately? When was that resolution passed and what is the reason for this delay?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not aware of the resolution passed by the Pharmaceutical Conference.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: How many places have been discovered in Delhi during the last one year where spurious drugs were manufactured and in how many cases prosecutions have been started against the culprits?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As far as Delhi is concerned, two cases of manufacture of spurious drugs have been reported to the Government of India fairly recently. A final report regarding the action that is going to be taken against the offenders is awaited from the Chief Commissioner.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether, pending the amendment of the Act, Government will consider the amendment of the Drug Rules of 1945, with a view to checking this evil?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is clearly making a suggestion.

Shri Sidhva: I am only asking whether Government is prerared to amend the rules.

Mr. Speaker: I know; he is putting it in the form of a question, but it is a suggestion for action.

Shri Sidhva: Is the Act applicable to Part B States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not think so, at the moment.

Shri Kamath: During the last twelve months has any action been taken in Delhi and New Delhi under the Preventive Detention Act against the manufacturers or vendors of spurious drugs?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have already said that those who have been caught are going to be tried. I do not know what action is being taken at the moment.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME OF U.N.E.S.C.O.

***1495. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state what is the approximate cost involved in the Technical Assistance Programme for which an agreement exists between the U.N.E.S.C.O. and India?

(b) Has the U.N.E.S.C.O. sent any technicians to India for such a purpose?

(c) If so, for what kinds of training have they been sent?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Financial obligations of the parties to the Agreement are given in Article III of the Agreement, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 4].

(b) Not yet.

(c) The subjects for which foreign experts are to be invited are mentioned in the annex to the Agreement.

Shri Sidhva: The annexure to the Agreement says that ten research experts are to come with a view to commence work on 1st January 1951. May I know whether they have arrived?

Shri Khurshed Lal: If they had arrived I would have said so; they are due to arrive.

Shri Sidhva: That means they have not arrived yet; the answer should be correct.

Shri Khurshed Lal: They have not yet arrived.

Shri Sidhva: The team was to have commenced work on the 1st January of this year.

Shri Khurshed Lal: There are many good intentions which are delayed

Shri Sidhva: The annexure says that the expenditure will have to be borne by the Government of India, so far as items IV and V are concerned. May I know what is the approximate expenditure that is likely to be incurred?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am afraid I will have to ask notice for that question.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the sum of $ 22,000 includes the expenditure that will be incurred on these ten experts?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am afraid I am not in a position to give an offhand answer.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether any priorities have been fixed with regard to the subjects in which training will be imparted?

Shri Khurshed Lal: All schemes are of equal importance.

INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

***1496. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies still existing in the Indian Administrative Service; and

(b) the number of candidates undergoing training for the Indian Administrative Service, and the Institutions where the training is being imparted?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Seventy-five in Part A States. Vacancies in Part B States cannot be estimated until the constitution of the cadres in these States is completed.

(b) Thirty-five probationers are being trained at present in the Indian Administrative Service Training School, Delhi.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the period of training and what are the subjects in which training is given?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am sorry I have not got the information here. I would like the hon. Member to put a question as to the period of training and curriculum.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the number of officers promoted from the Provincial Service to the Indian Administrative Service and what is the number directly recruited?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am sorry, Sir, that the question did not include the number of people who have been appointed. The original question was with reference to vacancies and the training. Therefore, I am not ready with the figures as to those who have been appointed.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of Government to fill up some of the vacancies in Part A States with women who have already qualified themselves, but who have not yet been absorbed in service? If the answer is in the negative, what are the reasons for it?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Every attempt will be made not only to be fair to the other sex, but also to go a little beyond the line to bring them up. But it is very difficult to entirely overlook other considerations.

Shri Karunakara Menon: May I know whether all the candidates so far selected have been provided for?

Shri Rajagopalachari: All candidates selected have been, or will soon be, provided for. There are actually 75 vacancies for which we expect there will be enough candidates in the course of the next few years. On account of the recent changes, the number of retirements in the immediate future years before us will not be so much. There will be less number of vacancies. Therefore these 75 vacancies will be filled within the next few years from the candidates that will be selected year after year. Those of them who have been selected should not be too impatient. There will be vacancies to provide for them.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Out of the selected candidates, are some candidates sent to Calcutta for training in the Income-tax Department?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I wish I were as well informed as the hon. Member about the grievances of particular members of the service. But all the candidates selected undergo particular training in accordance with the cadre to which they are attached.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know how soon the number of vacancies still existing in Part B States will be known?

Shri Rajagopalachari: In Part B States, those who are already there, that is to say, local officers recommended by the State Governments, are being interviewed for appointment to this Service. It will take a little time and when that is finished, we shall know the number of vacancies.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Has any percentage been fixed for the selection of I.A.S. personnel from the P.C.S.?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I think I know what the hon. Member wants.

Mr. Speaker: It need not be answered.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in certain Press reports which appeared some time ago that the Government of a certain State declined to accept, on communal grounds, some I.A.S. officers or appointees who had been posted to that State by the Centre?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I shall enquire, Sir.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether there are any alternative proposals under the consideration of the Government to appoint those women who have already qualified themselves?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question has been answered before. Let us not enter into that argument now.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: May I know what is the age of superannuation now under the new rules?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am not so well educated as the hon. Member expects. I shall enquire and let him know if a question is put. Because there have been so many changes recently, I do not wish to venture an answer.

Seth Govind Das: The hon. Minister stated that with respect to the appointment of women there are "other considerations". May I know what those are?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a question which was thoroughly replied to some time back in this House.

COMPULSORY SAVINGS SCHEME

***1497. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual amount collected from Government servants by the operation of the Compulsory Savings Scheme, and the number of Government servants affected by the scheme:

(b) upto what date the scheme will be in force; and

(c) whether the Government of India propose to extend the period of this scheme further and if not, why not?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Scheme will be in force until the end of 1951-52.

(c) The question has not so far been considered by Government.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether it is proposed to extend this scheme to rural areas and if so what practical steps have been taken?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This relates to Central Government servants irrespective of where they serve.

EXCHANGE OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

***1498. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for the exchange of University teachers referred to the Inter-University Board has been considered by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (b). The matter concerns the Universities themselves. The subject was considered by the Inter-University Board recently and they resolved that it was not feasible to make any suitable arrangements for exchange of University Teachers in different Universities in India. A suggestion was made that the Universities may establish a system of supernumerary visiting professors.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know who will bear the expenses of the teachers on deputation to the various Universities when the scheme is put into operation?

Shri Khurshed Lal: As I have said it was felt that such a scheme is not feasible.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Has the University Board given any scheme?

Shri Khurshed Lal: As I have said, a suggestion was made for the exchange of supernumerary visiting professors.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what are the purposes and the methods of such exchange?

Mr. Speaker: I think that it is the concern of the University Board.

Shri Khurshed Lal: Absolutely, Sir.

Shri Barrow: What were the reasons for this scheme being declared as not feasible?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Possibly, various Universities concerned thought that they could not exchange professors in that manner.

ACCOUNTS OF EMBASSIES (AUDIT)

***1499. Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are establishments attached to the Embassies for auditing their accounts; and

(b) if not, how are the accounts audited and who audits them?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No establishments are attached to the Embassies for auditing their accounts but there is an Audit Office in London under the Comptroller and Auditor General which audits the entire accounts of the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom.

(b) All accounts except those of the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom are transmitted to Delhi and audited by the Accountant General, Central Revenues and Accountant General, Food, Relief and Supplies.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the bills of the Purchase Departments of the different Embassies are properly accounted for?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have every confidence that they are accounted for properly.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Auditor and Comptroller General who has visited the Embassies recently has submitted any report regarding the auditing of the accounts of the Embassies?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think there is a separate question on this later on, but the answer is that he has not submitted any audit report.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that audit system exists only in the India Office, London. May I know what are the arrangements for internal audit as regards other Embassies?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There are no arrangements for internal audit, but trained accountants are attached to almost all Embassies for the proper maintenance of their internal accounts and as I said in reply to part (b) of the question, all these accounts except those of the High Commissioner for India in London are transmitted to Delhi for audit purposes. I might add that there is a proposal now to establish a small audit office in Washington in the coming year for audit of the expenditure incurred in the United States and for the local inspection of other Embassies in America.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General, after his visit to the Missions and Embassies abroad, has reported to Government serious defects in the system of audit maintained by our various Embassies and Missions abroad and suggested that they should be remedied?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have seen no such report, Sir.

Shri Dwivedi: Have any defects in the audit been received by Government from any Embassy?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Defects? We do not presume to judge the defects in the audit, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister stated that the Comptroller General has not submitted any audit report. May I know whether he has submitted any report and if he is satisfied with the system of accounts kept in the Embassies?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The question was whether there was a general report on the audit of accounts in the Embassies and I replied that I have not seen any such report. It is not the purpose of the Auditor General to submit a report to Government on the state of audit in the Embassies. I believe that he has drawn attention to imperfections which he found in the maintenance of accounts by certain individual Embassies, but that was not to the Finance Ministry.

KHAJURAHO TEMPLES

***1500. Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) what facilities as regards refreshment, stay and sanitation are provided by Government at the historical monuments and temples situated at Khajuraho in Chhatarpur district of Vindhya Pradesh which attract a good number of visitors including foreigners throughout the year;

(b) whether the Government of Vindhya Pradesh had submitted any proposals in this connection; and

(c) if so, what happened to them?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) At present there are no such facilities at Khajuraho.

(b) and (c). The Government of Vindhya Pradesh proposed that a Dak Bungalow at Khajuraho might be constructed during the next year but the proposal could not be accepted because of financial stringency.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether some complaints were made during the recent visit of the President about the

maintenance and insanitary conditions of these temples and if so, what steps are Government taking to remedy them?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I have not seen any such report. When it does come to Government, attention will be paid to it.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the Archaeological Department of the Government of India are going to take these temples under their care?

Shri Khurshed Lal: That matter is under consideration.

ARREARS OF INCOME-TAX

***1501. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Income-tax arrears which are yet to be realised from people who have migrated to Pakistan; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this connection?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Separate figures of tax due from migrants to Pakistan are not readily available but tax due from persons who have left India and have no assets in India amounts to about Rs. 519 lakhs. A large part of it may be due from persons who have migrated to Pakistan.

(b) Usual recovery proceedings have been taken under Section 46 of the Indian Income-tax Act and certificates have been and are being sent to the Collectors in Pakistan in pursuance of sub-sections (8) to (10) of the same section.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही है कि इस मामले में पाकिस्तान सरकार से कोई सहायता नहीं मिल रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that no help is forthcoming from Pakistan in this matter?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : सहायता तो खास करके मिल नहीं रही है, और बहुत सी मुश्किलात हैं।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** No help is forthcoming, besides this there are many other difficulties.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : पाकिस्तान से जो लोग भारत आये उन पर जो इनकम टैक्स पाया गया था उसमें से कितना रुपया भारत सरकार ने वसूल कर के पाकिस्तान सरकार को भेजा है और पाकिस्तान जो लोग यहां से गये उनका कितना रुपया पाकिस्तान ने भारत सरकार को भेजा है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** What amount of money has been remitted by the Government of India to the Government of Pakistan after realising it out of the income tax arrears due to the persons who have migrated from Pakistan to India and what amount of money has Pakistan remitted to the Government of India after realizing it from those persons who have migrated to Pakistan?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : वह बहुत अल्पांश में है।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** That is in very nominal figures.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि पाकिस्तान से जो लोग यहां आये उनका कितना रुपया हम लोगों ने भेजा और . . .

[**Seth Govind Das:** I want to know what amount of money have we sent in respect of those persons who have migrated from Pakistan and.....]

उप० स्पीकर : उन्होंने कहा कि वह बहुत अल्पांश में है।

Mr. Speaker: He has stated that is in very nominal figures.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जो सहायता जैसा मानती। मंत्री जी ने कहा हम को पाकिस्तान सरकार से इस सम्बन्ध में नहीं मिल रही है उसके सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** As the hon. Minister has stated that in this matter we are receiving no help from Pakistan what action the Government of India is taking in that connection?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : इस विषय में दोनों सरकारों में बहुत सी चर्चा हो रही है।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** This matter is being thoroughly discussed between the two Governments.]

DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES

***1502. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** (a) Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state whether Government have received representations from the public to the effect that the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes be allotted on the district-wise population strength of each such community, and then delimit constituencies reserving seats for them in the areas where their population is most concentrated?

(b) If so, what action have Government taken in the matter?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes. Requests have been received for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of the concentration of population of those Castes and Tribes in the districts instead of in constituencies.

(b) These representations have been brought to the notice of the Election Commission.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether this principle will be applicable to all the States and both the communities, or to certain States only?

Shri Gadgil: Which principle?

Mr. Speaker: The principle of having seats according to population.

Shri Gadgil: Sir, the question was whether representations have been received in connection with the adoption of certain principle. The answer is that certain representations have been received and they have been forwarded to the Election Commission for taking due notice.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Is it not a fact that the Cabinet has decided that the Scheduled Castes shall be given reservation of seats in the area where they are most concentrated without having any regard to the population of the districts?

Shri Gadgil: The Government decision in this connection has been that the seats should be reserved in areas where the population of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes as the case may be is most concentrated. But there must be some standards for comparison, and districts are not on uniform basis whether in the point of area or population. Therefore the measure adopted has been the constituency. If in the application of this general principle any hard case is brought to the notice of the Election Commissioner I understand that he looks into it, and one such case has been considered at the instance of the hon. Member.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether any representation has been received from Part C States for the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes?

Shri Gadgil: I want notice of that question.

Pandit Kunzru: Did the hon. Minister say that the Government has issued instructions to the Chief Election Commissioner or the Election Commission that the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes should be given representation in a particular manner?

Shri Gadgil: The general principle is that where their population is concentrated, the seats should be allotted to that area. Now, the principle enunciated by the hon. Member, or rather suggested for adoption, is that instead of taking the constituency as the unit the district should be taken as the unit. But each district differs from another and it becomes very difficult and will ultimately result in great inequity. Therefore the principle that constituency should be the basis has been accepted by the Government, and the Election Commissioner has been working on that principle. If in any particular case great hardship results, he will surely look into it.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether any representations have been received from the President of the Scheduled Castes Federation, Assam that the distribution of seats there is very unjust and that seats have been allotted where there is least concentration of the Scheduled Caste Population?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice of that question.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know whether there is any constitutional difficulty in reserving single-member constituencies for the Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Gadgil: It is a matter of constitutional interpretation.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Do Government propose to reserve seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes only in single-member constituencies?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot say anything just now.

Mr. Speaker: It is entering into an argument.

Shri Kamath: Have those representations been brought to the notice of the various Parliamentary Delimitation Committees directly or through the Election Commission, as these Committees are expected to submit proposals in the first instance?

Shri Gadgil: I understand the procedure adopted was that for each State a Committee was constituted by

the hon. the Speaker. Those Committees have made their recommendations and they are being considered by the Election Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker: The point of the question is whether such representations as are received by Government or that independently go to the Election Commission are referred for opinion or advice to the various Committees.

Shri Gadgil: I will require notice for that.

Pandit Kunzru: I want a little elucidation, whether Government have the right to compel the Election Commissioner to act in a particular manner in regard to the delimitation of constituencies.

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter I believe of opinion and interpretation.

Shri Raj Bahadur: While considering the suggestion put forward in this question, may I know whether it has not been accepted as a general rule that constituencies shall be so delimited that no district boundaries are split?

Shri Gadgil: It is really a matter for the Election Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker: I think we are now entering into details.

Shri Sonavane: Is it a fact that the Election Commissioner has disturbed the allocation of seats made by the different Delimitation Committees of the various States?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice of that question.

PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

***1503. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the number of publications issued by the publications division during the years 1947 to 1950?

(b) How many of these publications are (i) in English (ii) in Hindi; and (iii) in other Indian languages?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 5.]

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय संख्या बता सकेंगे कि कितने पब्लिकेशन्स इन वर्षों में निकाले गये ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of publications issued during these years?]

श्री दिवाकर संख्या कौन सी ?

[Shri Diwakar: Which number?]

श्री किशोरी मोहन त्रिपाठी : सन् १९४७ से १९५० के बीच में कितने पब्लिकेशन्स निकाले गये हैं ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** How many publications have been issued during the years 1947 to 1950?]

Mr. Speaker: He has laid a statement on the Table. Does that statement not give the figures?

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Sir, a copy of the statement has not been given to me.

Mr. Speaker: It is for him to get the copy.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if this Division is self-paying?

Shri Diwakar: No, it is not.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि हिन्दी राजभाषा होने के बाद इस बात पर कितना ध्यान दिया जा रहा है कि अब अधिक रुपया हिन्दी पब्लिकेशन्स पर खर्च किया जाये ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know what attention is being paid to the fact that as Hindi has been declared the State Language so more money should be spent on Hindi publications?]

श्री दिवाकर : वह तो ज्यादा निकल रहे हैं ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** Hindi publications are issued more.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कितना फर्क पड़ा है इस एक बरस के अन्दर जब से हिन्दी राज्य-भाषा घोषित हुई ? ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** What difference has been caused during this period of one year since Hindi has been declared the State Language?]

श्री दिवाकर : पंफलेट्स में पचास प्रतिशत ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** Fifty per cent. as regards the pamphlets.]

Shrimati Durgabai: Is it a fact that the cost of these publications is very much higher than the publications brought about by individuals?

Shri Diwakar: I do not think so.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the number of persons employed for publication in English and Hindi separately and whether there is any difference in the scale of pay of editors in English and Hindi?

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice of the question.

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या इन गवर्नमेन्ट पब्लिकेशन्स की सूचियां प्रकाशित की गई हैं ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** Have the lists of these Government Publications been published?]

श्री दिवाकर: हां, जरूर ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** Yes. Certainly.]

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जान सकता हूं कि इन पब्लिकेशन्स में से कितने ऐसे हैं जिन के एक से अधिक संस्करण निकाले गये हैं ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know the number of those publications of which more than one editions have been issued?]

श्री दिवाकर : इसके लिये नोटिस चाहिये ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** I want notice of the question.]

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : यह पब्लिकेशन्स अधिकतर सरकारी छापेखानों में छापे जाते हैं या प्राइवेट छापेखानों में ?

[**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Are these publications generally printed by the Government Press or by Private Press?]

श्री दिवाकर : इस डिवीजन का जो छापाखाना है वहां जितना काम हो सकता है, उतना पूरा करके यदि दूसरे छापेखाने में भेजने की आवश्यकता होती है तो जरूर भेजा जाता है ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** In the press maintained by this Division all possible work is completed and if considered essential the work is definitely sent to other presses.]

گیانی جی ایس مسافر : کیا یہ تھیک ہے آنریبل منسٹر کو اس بات کی اطلاع ہے کہ ہندی میں جو کتابیں چھاپی گئی ہیں وہ اتنی مشکل ہیں کہ عام لوگوں کی سمجھ میں نہیں آئیں ؟

[**Shri G. S. Musafir:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that books published in Hindi are so difficult that common people are unable to understand them?]

श्री दिवाकर : मैं ठीक नहीं कह सकता ।

[**Shri Diwakar:** I cannot say definitely.]

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

ALL INDIA COUNCIL OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION

***1504. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the decision taken by the All India Council of Technical Education held on 24th January, 1951 at Calcutta; and

(b) whether Government have under consideration the proposal of introducing a Bill for the registration of engineers in India and if so, when?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 6.]

(b) Yes. A Bill for the registration of engineers in India has been drafted and is under examination.

RADIO STATIONS

***1505. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the radio-stations;

(b) the number of wireless receiving sets operating within the Zone of each of these stations;

(c) the yearly revenue thus collected within each zone; and

(d) the yearly expenditure on each of the stations?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (d). A statement is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 7.]

(b) and (c). Statistics are maintained only in respect of licences according to postal circles and not

according to Zones. Under one licence a licencee may operate more than one set at the licenced premises; it is, therefore, not possible to state with any degree of accuracy the number of wireless receiving sets operating within a particular area. The zone of a station refers only to the area from which the particular station ordinarily draws its artistic talent. For the same reason it is not possible to state the yearly revenue collected within each zone.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the number of licenses issued in each zone?

Shri Diwakar: It is not according to zones that the licenses are issued to licence holders. The Postal Circles do not coincide with zones.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the revenue collected from the periodicals? The statement has given only the expenditure on the periodicals. May I know the revenue by way of advertisements and subscriptions.

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: How many of these publications are self-supporting or are yielding any profit?

Shri Diwakar: About two seem to be nearly self-supporting.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : क्या निकट भविष्य में कुछ नये रेडियो स्टेशन्स खोलने का विचार है ? यदि है तो कहां, क्यों और कब?

[**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Is it contemplated to open new Radio Stations in the near future? If so, where, why and when?]

श्री दिवाकर: अभी कुछ निश्चित नहीं है, विचार तो हमेशा ही चलता है।

[**Shri Diwakar:** Nothing is yet decided, proposals are always there.]

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that a publication named "India Speaks" was to be brought out, and an editor is being paid for the last two years although the publication has not been brought out?

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is the intention of Government to equip the one K.W. metre Stations into fullfledged stations under the 8 years' Development plan?

Shri Diwakar: Yes, that is the general plan and we are working according to that plan. As and when the plan matures and money is available, one K.W. Stations would be replaced by a higher transmitter station.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know why the radio license fees have been increased?

Shri Diwakar: To get more revenue to meet increased expenditure.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

TOBACCO

*1506. **Shri P. Kodanda Ramiah:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to place on the Table of the House a detailed statement showing for the year 1950-51.

(a) the total Union Excise Duty on (i) tobacco intended for manufacture into *biris* or snuff; and (ii) tobacco intended for chewing, *hookah*, or *chillim;*

(b) the total quantity of released and unreleased stock, from the godowns in India, of tobacco intended for manufacture into *biris* or snuff; and

(c) the total quantity of released and unreleased stock of tobacco intended for chewing, *hookah* or *chillim*?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The particulars are being collected and will be placed as soon as possible on the Table of the House.

Shri P. Kodanda Ramiah: Is it a fact that a large quantity of tobacco intended for manufacturing *biris* or snuff has not been released from the godowns in 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I want notice of this question.

Shri T. N. Singh: Will the hon. Minister kindly let us know the rate of excise duty fixed for chewing tobacco and that fixed on *biri* tobacco? Is there any difference between the two and since when have the duties been varied?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There are differential rates of duty on tobacco according to its intended use. I believe it is 4 annas in some cases, 12 annas in some other cases and Re. 1 for flue cured tobacco etc. I cannot give all the particulars offhand.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Central Government give any money to State Governments as compensation for not imposing any duty on tobacco?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think, I answered the question some time ago, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: Will the Government state what steps have been taken following the representation made by the Banares Tobacco Manufacturers after the revised duty was imposed on chewing tobacco?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The matter is receiving careful attention.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

DUTIES UPON COMPONENTS OF AUTOMOBILES

*1507. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any rebates and refunds have been allowed in respect of enhanced import duties levied upon components of automobiles intended for commercial or public utility services, in pursuance of the statement made by the Finance Minister during the Budget Session 1950; and

(b) if so, the amount of rebates and refunds allowed with particulars of importing agencies and categories of components?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No Sir.

(b) My predecessor's promise to grant rebate of import duty on public services vehicles was based on the expectation that there would be a surplus in the Budget for the current year after the Finance Bill had emerged from the Select Committee with changes suggested by them. The expectation has not materialised. The matter is, however, still under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: What was the report of that Committee, which was appointed for that purpose?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: In this respect the main recommendation of the Automobile Expert Committee is that the existing Tariff classification of automobile components for purposes of assessement should be revised, and the revision should take the form of making the items more precise and also transferring from the existing group of components for which the highest quantum of protection exists carrying a rate of duty of 90 per cent. *ad valorem* to the lower rated category of 30 per cent. such of the main proprietary items whose manufacture is not feasible in India as also other components and parts whose manufacture up to prescribed standards is not likely to be feasible in the course of the next two years. This recommendation is likely to be accepted, Sir.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know what effect have these increased duties upon the production of those components on which the highest duties have been levied?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I must have notice of that question.

Shri T. N. Singh: Are Government aware of the fact that several interchangeable parts from tractors and motor cars are being imported as tractor parts and escaping duty?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This fact has not come to my notice, but I shall inquire.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What is the method employed by Government to find out what parts actually go into trucks and commercial vehicles and what parts go into cars?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: When I said, I shall enquire into the matter, naturally this will be one of the factors to be investigated as to the possible interchangeability of parts.

U.N. MISSION ON TROPICAL HOUSING

*1508. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Nations Mission of Experts on Tropical Housing visited India;

(b) if so, the places they visited in India; and

(c) the important recommendations of this Commission?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Delhi, Faridabad Township, Tughlakabad, Kalkaji, Sheikh Serai and Nilokheri township; Etawah and Agra; Bombay and Kalyan township; Nagpur and Sevagram; Banglore Madras and Calcutta.

(c) The Mission is expected to submit its report direct to the United Nations sometime this month. Its recommendations will be known when a copy of the report is received by Government.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know, Sir, if any advice or assistance was

sought for by the Government from this United Nations Mission in respect of durable and cheap houses for the low income groups and the poorer classes in general?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: They were asked to advise on every aspect of housing.

Short Notice Question and Answer

CALCUTTA DOCKS (STRIKE)

Shri Jnani Ram: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of Calcutta Docks have gone on strike from 12th February 1951;

(b) if so, the reasons, for the strike; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to restore normal workings?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) It is not a fact that the workers of Calcutta Docks have gone on strike. The hon. Member is perhaps referring to the so-called strike of seamen. Seamen have not been turning up to musters for recruitment to Shipping companies from the 12th February 1951, but on that account no ships have been delayed as the crew already working on them were signed on again.

(b) The strike is reported to be against the Pre-Entry Medical Examination Scheme which was introduced in Bombay and Calcutta, which are the two ports for recruitment of seamen, 8 or 9 months ago in pursuance of the Medical Examination (Sea Farers) Convention of 1946. There has been no agitation against the scheme in Bombay but in Calcutta there have been one or two strikes of this nature earlier also.

(c) The Deputy Director General of Shipping is in Calcutta and is looking into this question.

Shri Jnani Ram: Was any strike notice given? If so, when?

Shri Santhanam: It is not a regular strike. They have not been turning up for recruitment. There is no regular service for striking. They join the ships for each trip. This time they have not turned up at the proper place for being recruited?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know how the cargo and vessels have been affected by this strike?

Mr. Speaker: They have not been affected; that is what he has stated.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that recruitment was not affected on account of this medical inspection. May I know whether it is not a fact that the Medical Union made a representation to Government that it was a very strict examination, and after that, the Government amended certain rules and the matter went on all right? May I know whether similar amendments could not be made in Calcutta, without any impediment to recruitment?

Shri Santhanam: The position is the same in both the ports. When a seaman is disqualified by a Doctor, he is given the right to make an appeal to the Appeal Board which may order a re-examination. This was probably the amendment which satisfied the Bombay people. The same amendment is in force in Calcutta also.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the number of candidates that appear for recruitment daily in Calcutta?

Shri Santhanam: In every port there is a body of seamen available and according to the needs of the ships they are recruited. There are seamen's homes maintained in both the ports, Calcutta and Bombay. I cannot say how many are required at a particular time for a particular ship.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any recognised Union of Seamen there?

Shri Santhanam: I suppose there is. I would require notice for more particulars.

Shri A. C. Guha: About two years ago, there was a Bill passed to effect decasualisation of this seamen's service. Has that Bill been given effect to?

Shri Santhanam: Decasualisation was for dock workers. These have nothing to do with dock working. These are crew to be employed in ships.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether these strikers are led by Communists?

Shri Santhanam: I have already stated that there is no strike.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY AUSTRALIA

*1509. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Australia has offered scholarships to Indian students for 1951-52 and if so, how many and for what subjects they have been offered?

(b) What are the other countries that have offered scholarships to India for 1951-52 and the various branches of study for which these scholarships have been offered?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes. 50 awards of scholarships and fellowships have been offered by the Australian Government. The list of subjects is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 8.]

(b) A statement indicating the offers that have been received recently from other countries, is also laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 9.]

DEPORTATION OF NATIONALS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*1510. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of cases of deportation of nationals of foreign countries from India during the year 1950?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): 32.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

*1512. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of those who are receiving stipends of Rs. 150 per mensem from Central Government for getting practical training in Electrical Engineering at Government expense after finishing their diploma course or graduation from the Institutes in India?

(b) How many such stipends were given in the years 1949 and 1950 separately?

(c) Have Government made any arrangement with the Departments concerned or States for the absorption of recipients of such stipends after they have received the required practical training?

(d) If not, do Government propose to consider the desirability of ensuring employment of such trainees immediately after the completion of their training?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) One hundred and eight Electrical Engineering Graduates or holders of equivalent qualifications are at present receiving stipends of the value of Rs. 150 p.m.

(b) Fifty-nine stipends were awarded during the year 1949-50 and forty-nine during the year 1950-51.

(c) No.

(d) Government do not consider it necessary to make any specific arrangements for ensuring employment of trainees. The programme of general training undergone by trainees makes them better fitted for gainful employment and thus helps them to find employment.

PENICILLIN

*1511. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the supply position of Penicillin and other essential drugs; and

(b) whether they are being sold below the controlled prices?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The supply position of Penicillin and other essential drugs has improved considerably as a result of the policy of liberalisation of the import of essential drugs and medicines.

(b) It is reported that in certain places Penicillin and other essential drugs are being sold below the controlled prices.

EXCISE DUTY ON *Khandsari* SUGAR

*1513. **Shri Satish Chandra:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the actual earnings from excise duty on *Khandsari* Sugar during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and the estimated earnings for 1950-51;

(b) the cost incurred by Government for the collection of the same in each year;

(c) whether the specific recommendation of the Indian Tariff Board regarding exemption of *Khandsari* Sugar from the duty is proposed to be implemented; and

(d) If not, why not?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The Central Excise Duty realised on *Khandsari* Sugar during the years 1947-48 to 1949-50 is as follows:

Year	(*Rs. 000*)
1947-48	2,00
1948-49	2,14
1949-50	2,19

The estimated revenue for 1950-51 is Rs. 2 lakhs.

(b) *Year*	*Cost of collection*
1947-48	14·4 per cent.
1948-49	7·7 per cent.
1949-50	9·3 per cent.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The incidence of the Central Excise Duty of 8 annas a cwt. on *Khandsari* Sugar, (which is about 1·5 per cent. *ad valorem*) being negligible, the Government of India do not consider that there is any justification for a total exemption from duty.

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

*1514. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to improve children's education in India;

(b) how many children's schools have been opened in the Centrally Administered Areas during the last three years; and

(c) whether teachers have been sent abroad for training in child education?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The Government of India are directly concerned with improvement of education in C and D part States. Compulsory Basic Education has been introduced in the rural parts of Delhi with effect from 1948-49 and in Ajmer from 1950-51. It is also proposed to distribute a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs to Part C and D States other than Delhi and Ajmer during 1951-52 for initiating Basic Education.

The Government of India were also giving block grants to Part A States from 1946-47 to 1949-50 for development of their educational programmes including Basic Education. In 1949-50 an extra sum of Rs. 13·5 lakhs was distributed among A and C States specifically for the training of teachers for Basic Schools.

(b) Exact statistics for 1947-48 are not available. But during the last two years—1948-49 and 1949-50—312 additional Primary Schools were opened.

(c) Yes, seven teachers have been sent abroad for training in child education.

SHRINES AT JYOTISAR

*1515. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resuscitate the Shrines at Jyotisar, a village near Kurukshetra where the Gita is said to have originated; and

(b) whether Government have any information about its present condition?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) The Shrines at Jyotisar are not protected by the Government nor is it intended to declare them as such.

(b) Does not arise.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 19th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

(*See* Part II)

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

UNATTACHED WOMEN AND CHILDREN

*1516. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of inmates of the various Homes for unattached women and orphaned children and aged and infirm displaced men showing separately the number of men, women and children at the end of December 1950;

(b) whether it is a fact that a special committee has been appointed to consider the responsibility of Government for the maintenance and care of the above mentioned persons; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, whether this committee has submitted its report and if so, what are its main recommendations?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) About 45,400. A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 10.]

(b) and (c). Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given by me to Starred Question No. 1431 on the 14th February, 1951.

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1517. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount, state-wise, of loans applied for till 31st December, 1950 for relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons; and

(b) the total amount, state-wise, of loans sanctioned till 31st December, 1950 for the above purpose?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Applications for loans are ordinarily received by District Officers all over India wherever displaced persons have gone and by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration. The amount of labour involved in the collection of information sought will not be commensurate with the results achieved.

(b) Two statements showing loans sanctioned by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration and other loans sanctioned by the State Governments are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 11.]

Information in regard to loans other than those sanctioned by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration is still awaited from the States of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Bihar and Orissa. It will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

*1518. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the price of the articles sold in and orders secured through international exhibitions in which Indian goods were exhibited since 1947;

(b) whether any exhibits have been lost;

(c) if so, the price of such articles; and

(d) the expense incurred by Government for these exhibitions?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The value of samples (articles) sold since 1947 is Rs. 1,66,227/4/10. In regard to the second part of the question, Government have no information on the total value of the orders obtained by exhibitors as orders by buyers are placed directly with suppliers and not through the Government.

(b) Yes.

(c) The value of samples lost covered by insurance is Rs. 19,131/11/. As regards uninsured samples lost Government are not in a position to ascertain the value.

(d) The total expenses incurred by Government since the beginning of 1947 is Rs. 6,53,305/7/8.

GRINDING WHEELS

*1519. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the annual requirement of grinding wheels in this country?

(b) What is our annual production?

(c) How many factories are there in India producing grinding wheels?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 300 to 350 tons.

(b) About 250 tons.

(c) One.

FRUIT PRESERVATION INDUSTRY (PROTECTION)

*1520. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Food Preservers' Association has urged the Tariff Board to grant an increased rate of protection to the Fruit Preservation Industry; and

(b) if so, has the Tariff Board examined the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

FRESH PROJECT BY TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

*1521. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tata Iron and Steel Company has submitted to Government a fresh project costing Rs. 4 crores; and

(b) if so, the object of the project?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For installation of new mills for making strips and tubes under the Company's Expansion Scheme.

TREATY WITH SIKKIM

*1522. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new treaty has been signed between Sikkim and India; and

(b) if so, who has signed the treaty on behalf of Sikkim?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) His Highness the Maharaja of Sikkim.

EVACUEE PROPERTY BELONGING TO TRUSTS

*1523. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the result of the latest discussion that took place regarding the disposal of evacuee properties belonging to religious and charitable trusts in India and Pakistan?

(b) What is the total value of such properties in Pakistan and India?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The question ragarding the management and disposal of properties of religious and charitable Trusts both in India and Pakistan was discussed at a joint meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Trust property Committee held at Lahore on the 18th November, 1950. The discussions were of an exploratory nature and no decisions were taken. Both sides agreed to exchange further data to study the dimensions and the nature of the problems involved. A copy of the proceedings of the Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 12.]

(b) The Government of India have no authentic record of the value of such properties in Pakistan and India.

INDIANS IN FRENCH INDO-CHINA (EVACUATION)

*1524. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of Indians in French Indo-China who have been evacuated from the areas which are now being controlled or threatened by the Viet Minh forces?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Forty-three.

EXPORT OF CLOTH

*1525. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any quota has been fixed for exporting cloth to hard currency countries during the period January-June, 1951?

(b) If so, what is the total quantity of that quota?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Twenty million yards for coarse and medium cloth. Handloom and powerloom cloth is licensed freely to all destinations. Licences for fine and superfine cloth were being issued freely up to 4th January, 1951 for hard currency as well as soft currency countries Issue of licences for these varieties was suspended on 12th January 1951.

BALANCE OF TRADE WITH DOLLAR COUNTRIES

*1526. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the import and export position of India with dollar countries since 1st September, 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): I place on the Table of the House a statement showing import and export position of the country for the period September to November, 1950. Figures for later months are not yet available.

STATEMENT

Balance of trade with dollar countries in the period September to November 1950.

Value in lakhs of rupees

Period	Imports	Exports including re. exports	Balance of trade
September to November, 1950	22,03	37,33	*14,40

*Figures are provisional and subject to revision.

TEXTILE MILLS

*1527. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills which remained idle, totally or partially, for want of material or labour in 1950 up to 31st December 1950;

(b) to what extent efforts to make cotton of the requisite quality and quantity available to the textile mills have borne fruit; and

(c) to what extent the production has been affected during the year by (i) insufficient supply or non-availability of cotton, and (ii) by clash between labour and capital, and strikes etc.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 90 Mills remained totally or partially idle for varying periods during the year 1950.

(b) The Indian Mills need about 36 lakh bales of East Indian Varieties of cotton annually. Consequent on the stoppage of imports from Pakistan particularly after devaluation, it is possible to satisfy only 2/3rd of the requirements of the mills from the domestic crop. Following steps have, therefore, been taken to distribute equitably the available supplies of Indian cotton to the Mills:

(i) The purchase of cotton by mills has been regulated by fixing quotas of cotton for each mill from various cotton producing zones.

(ii) Quotas of cotton have been fixed for the mills in accordance with the cotton usually used by them and from those cotton producing zones from which they were drawing supplies during the previous years. The requirements of consumers other than textile mills such as Hand Spinning Associations, Razai manufacturers and Surgical dressings have also been met by allocation of cotton quotas to them.

The Scheme adopted for equitable distribution of available supplies of cotton referred to above has been quite successful. It has enabled the mills to purchase 2,634,417 bales of cotton during 1949-50 season out of a quota of 2,762,994 bales. It has also checked the cornering of cotton by mills which are financially strong and has enabled the weaker units to obtain their requirements with more ease than in the previous year.

(c) Loss of production due to (i) meagre or insufficient supply of cotton is 35,215 bales (one bale is equal to 1500 yards) of cloth and 9,634 bales (1 bale of 400 lbs) of yarn and (ii) clash, strikes etc., 137,645 bales of cloth and 27,920 bales of yarn.

RESEARCHES ON COTTAGE INDUSTRY MACHINERY

*1528. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the Agencies or Departments, if any, of Central Government which subsidise researches on cottage industry machinery suitable for India; and

(b) the number of firms or individuals in India who have invented water-lifting, rice husking and oil pressing machines on cottage industry scale?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The only Agency that subsidises researches on cottage industry machinery is the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee.

(b) Six individuals and firms have submitted entries of the inventions made by them of oil-pressing machines. No information is available in regard to water-lifting and rice-husking machines.

PLASTICS

*1529. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps Government are taking to develop plastics industry in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 13.]

TRADE MARKS OFFICES

*1530. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the States which are under the jurisdiction of the Bangalore Trade Marks Office?

(b) Are the Calcutta and Bombay offices of Trade Marks placed on the same or on different status?

(c) What is the total income from Trade Marks Registration per year for the three offices and what is the expenditure on each office?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Trade Marks Act, 1940 does not contemplate the limitation of the territorial jurisdiction of Branches of the Trade Marks Registry established thereunder. Facilities are given to the pubilc at the Branch Registries for filing applications and inspecting certain documents. After applications have been filed at the Branch Registries, they are transferred to the Trade Marks Registry at Bombay for disposal.

I might mention that the Act has not yet been extended to Part B States, but that provision has been made in the Part B States (Laws) Bill for such extention.

(b) The Office at Bombay is the Trade Marks Registry and the Office at Calcutta is a branch of the Trade Marks Registry at Bombay.

(c) The actual income and expenditure during the year 1949/50, were as follows:

	Income	*Expenditure*
	Rs.	Rs.
Trade Marks Registry, Bombay.	6,20,763	5,81,557
Branch Registry, Calcutta.	3,31,586	1,04,534
Trade Marks Registry, Bangalore.	11,412	17,089

EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE

*1531. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the Pilot Scheme of the Employees State Insurance at Delhi and Kanpur would be getting any minimum contribution from the employers on an all-India basis?

(b) What would be the share of the employers in that case?

(c) What would be the share of the employee at Delhi and Kanpur?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). The whole matter is still under consideration.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

*1532. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state when the Development Committee on Industry was constituted?

(b) How many times did the Committee meet since its formation?

(c) Has the Committee made any decision or suggested any measure for the Development of the National resources of India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The Development Committee on Industries was constituted on the 1st December, 1950. I lay on the Table of the House a copy of Government's Resolution showing the constitution and terms of reference of the Committee. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 14.]

(b) Twice on 22nd and 23rd December, 1950 and 17th and 18th February, 1951.

(c) The Committee recommended the formation of Industrial Panels for Heavy Engineering, Light Engineering, Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals and the Ferrous and Non-ferrous Metals Industries. I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the composition and terms of reference of the Panels which have been formed. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 15.]

DEMURRAGE FOR FIREWOOD

*1533. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the circumstances in which Government had to pay rupees twenty-six thousand as demurrage for firewood to the E. P. Railway as referred to in the Demand for Supplementary Grant for 1950-51, No. 84 under the Head "Delhi"?

(b) Who was responsible for this negligence?

(c) What action was taken against this officer?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) As a result of the communal disturbances in September, 1947, the supply position of fire-wood in Delhi deteriorated to such an extent that in October, 1947, fire-wood was not even available at the burning ghats. To meet this emergency the Delhi State Administration arranged for the import of fire-wood from Karnal District and the E. P. Railway authorities were moved to make available empty wagons at certain Railway Stations in Karnal District to the authorised whole-sale dealers so that they could transport fire-wood to Delhi, from the stocks owned by certain Muslims who had migrated to Pakistan. In view of the fact that the East Punjab Government were themselves short of fire-wood and these stocks of fire-wood were without any owner, the Deputy Commissioner, Karnal, was at first reluctant to release the stocks and the haulage of the fire-wood could not be done within the time limit allowed by the Railway authorities. The Delhi State authorities in spite of their best efforts were able to secure from the Government of Punjab loading of only 75 wagons of fire-wood, with the result that a large number of wagons remained standing on the Railway stations in Karnal District during the months of September and October 1947. The Railway authorities in the first instance preferred a claim for Rs. 1,42,284/7 on account of demurrage in regard to empty wagons but this amount by negotiations was subsequently reduced to Rs. 26,715, and is payable to the Railway authorities. The payment of demurrage charges was not, therefore, due to negligence on the part of any Officer of the Delhi State.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN DELHI

*1534. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of brick-built houses of different varieties that have been constructed in Delhi up till now for displaced persons;

(b) the total expenditure incurred by Government for the construction of those houses;

(c) the number of houses that have been sold and prices fully realised; and

(d) the number of houses let out on monthly rent to the displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 13,815 houses and tenements and 264 shops-cum-residences have been constructed in Delhi up till 31st December, 1950.

(b) The total estimated expenditure is Rs. 302 lakhs. Actual expenditure figures are not available.

(c) 532 houses and 88 shops-cum-houses have been sold on full price. The total receipts are Rs. 46,73,750.

(d) 11,529 houses and tenements and 173 shop-cum-residences.

RETURN OF MIGRANTS

*1535. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of migrants who have so far returned to East and West Bengal?

(b) What amounts have been spent by the respective Governments in the resettlement of these migrants?

(c) How many of them have been settled on their own lands and in their own houses?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) During the ten months following the Prime Ministers' Agreement of the 8th April, 1950, 21,48,000 Hindus came to West Bengal from East Bengal, and 17,78,500 Hindus went from West Bengal to East Bengal. Similarly, during the same period as against 8,82,600 Muslims who went to East Bengal from West Bengal, 7,58,758 Muslims returned to West Bengal. These figures include all kinds of travellers and not merely migrants but exclude movement across the West Bengal-East Bengal border on foot.

(b) Up to the end of November, 1950, the Government of West Bengal spent a sum of Rs. 9,81,019 on relief and rehabilitation of Muslims displaced during the communal disturbances of 1950. The Government of Pakistan have informed us that up to the end of October, 1950, the Government of East Bengal have spent Rs. 3,64,565/- on relief and rehabilitation of returning Hindu migrants.

(c) We have no up-to-date information about rehabilitation in East Bengal. The Government of East Bengal informed us that up to the end of October, 1950, out of 1,46,909 houses left by Hindus 86,146 houses had been restored and out of 2,19,018 acres of land left behind by Hindus,

1,68,002 acres of land had been restored.

Regarding West Bengal full information has been called for from the State Government. From the information available to us the following appears to be the position:

Up to the 31st July, 1950, 7,907 Muslim families of returning migrants were rehabilitated. Subsequently, 61,000 Muslim migrants have also been rehabilitated in the districts of Nadia, Malda and Hoogly. Until fuller information is available, it is not possible to say how many have got back their houses and lands, but it appears that out of 5,440 houses left vacant by Muslims in the district of Howrah, 3,040 houses were restored to them by the lst week of October, 1950. I may add that the Government of West Bengal were handicapped to a certain extent in restoring houses and lands to returning migrants by judgments given by courts in certain cases. Now that necessary powers have been taken (under a recently promulgated Ordinance) to evict unauthorised occupants, the position is expected to improve.

COALMINE LABOUR WELFARE LEGISLATIONS IN HYDERABAD

*1536. **Shri R. L. Malviya**: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state which of the Coalmine Labour Welfare Legislations have so far been applied to Hyderabad and if none, whether Government propose to apply any such legislation to Hyderabad and if so, when?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948 was extended to Hyderabad with effect from the 31st December, 1950, with the enactment of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes (Amendment) Act, 1950. The Indian Mines Act, 1923, the Coal Mines Labour welfare Fund Act, 1947, and the Mines Maternity Benefit Act, 1941, will become applicable to Hyderabad as soon as the Part B States (Laws) Bill, 1951, which was passed by this House on the 9th February, 1951 is brought into force.

INDUSTRIAL PANELS

*1537. **Shri Damodara Menon**: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the industries for which Industrial panels are proposed to be set up?

(b) What are the terms of reference and the scope and nature of the work of these panels?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Panels have been formed for the Heavy Engineering, Light Engineering, Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Ferrous Metals and Non-ferrous Metals Industries.

(b) The terms of reference of these Panels are outlined in the note a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 15 (Part II).]

YARN (ALLOTMENT TO STATES)

*1538. **Shri Ramraj Jajware**: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the basis of allotment of quotas of yarn to various States in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Allotment of yarn to the various States is made on the basis of their requirements for handloom and other industries fixed during the year 1948.

DEVELOPMENT OF VINDHYA PRADESH

*1539. **Shri Dwivedi**: (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Planning Commission have for consideration any plan for the development of Vindhya Pradesh.

(b) Has any Committee for planning been constituted in Vindhya Pradesh as in the case of other states?

(c) If so, who are the persons constituting it?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Planning Commission is considering a development plan for Vindhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). There is an interdepartmental committee for planning with the Chief Commissioner as Chairman. The other members are the Secretaries of the Agriculture, Public Works and Finance Departments and the Director of Industries.

COMPENSATION TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1540. **Shri Kamath**: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the conference of States Rehabilitation Ministers, held in December 1950, the Prime Minister rejected the idea of payment of compensation to displaced persons for the losses suffered by them in Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what will be the effect of this new policy on the problem of settlement of evacuee property?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Prime Minister stated at the conference that the primary duty of Government was to rehabilitate displaced persons to the best of its ability. As regards compensation, he stated that this must come out of the evacuee property in India of Muslim migrants as well as any sum recovered from Pakistan by way of difference in value of the property left by the non-Muslim displaced persons in Pakistan and by the Muslim migrants in India. Government would give every additional help in rehabilitation of those who have suffered losses; they have already assured all concerned that displaced persons will be recompensed to the extent possible for their losses—the extent of the recompense depending necessarily upon the total assets that become available for distribution.

(b) This is not a new policy but a re-affirmation of the policy pursued thus far.

FIVE YEAR PLAN

*1541. **Shri Kamath**: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has finalised, in detail, each of the two stages of the Five Year Plan to be launched shortly;

(b) if so, whether the blue print of the Plan is available, and will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) the date on which the Plan is likely to be put into operation;

(d) whether the States have been directed to set up Regional Planning Boards in order to give effect to, and to co-ordinate the overall Plan; and

(e) if so, which States have taken such action so far?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (e). Sir, in view of the interest that this House and the country take in the work of the Planning Commission, it might be advantageous for me to take this opportunity to make a short statement about the programme of work on which the Planning Commission is at present engaged. This will give a better idea to the House of our work than a brief answer to the question that the hon. Member has put. With your permission, Sir, therefore, I propose to make this statement.

The House will recall that a few months ago the Commission requested States Governments to prepare plans of development for the two years, 1951-52, and 1952-53, and, in broader outline, for the period of five years ending 1955-56. Development plans have recently been received from most of the States Governments and the Central Ministries. These Plans are being studied, and the Commission hopes to suggest detailed priorities to the Central Government and the States, and also to indicate the levels to which financial resources may be raised during the next few years by the Centre and by the various Part A and Part B States towards the implementation of the national plan. Before the Commission makes its recommendations to individual States Governments, it intends to hold discussions with each of them on the basis of its assessment of their financial position and resources and their programmes of development. Before the plan is finalised, it is also hoped to make arrangements for consultation between the Planning Commission and Members of Parliament who are specially interested in planning. Discussions with States Governments will begin shortly and will extend over a few weeks. It is expected that the Commission's report will be presented to Government towards the end of May.

The Plan under preparation covers a period of five years, but it is proposed later to extend it to the sixth year, so as to correspond with the period of the Colombo Plan. The Commission's report is likely to cover a wide field. It will make an assessment of the country's resources, including financial resources, and the extent to which they may be developed. It will contain the Commission's recommendations on questions of national policy bearing on improvements in public administration, machinery for the execution of plans at the Centre and in the States, public cooperation, reorganisation of the system of agriculture, development of cottage and small-scale industries, the future organisation of industry, conservation of mineral resources, development of irrigation and power, the system of education and the extension of social services. It will also present an integrated programme of development in the public sector extending both to the Centre and the States. As regards the private sector, development programmes for individual industries are being worked out in consultation with the representatives of the industries concerned. A number of industries have been studied and the Commission's proposals for their development are expected to be submitted about the same time as its main report. The development programme for coal has already been submitted to Government. Its proposals for other industries will be made later after the discussions have been completed.

Government hope that Parliament will be able to consider the report of the Planning Commission during the next Session.

INDIANS IN PERSIAN GULF AREA

*1542. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many Indians reside at present in the Sector known as "Persian Gulf"?

(b) What is their chief occupation?

(c) Have Government appointed any representative in the sector to look after their interests?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) About 7,300.

(b) Trade and business, skilled labour in the oil fields and employment under Government, semi-Government and commercial concerns.

(c) There is an Indian Embassy at Tehran and a Legation at Baghdad. Indian representatives have not yet been appointed in other parts of the Persian Gulf area. The Secretary and the Commercial Secretary to the Indian Legation at Baghdad have, however, been instructed to pay periodical visits to Bahrain and Kuwait to maintain contact with Indians there.

SEALING OF 'B' ZONE IN BERAR

*1543. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the date on which the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, sealed the 'B' zone in Berar?

(b) What data of misbehaviour or piercing of ceiling were before the Textile Commissioner as a result of which the zone was sealed?

(c) What was the quantity of cotton purchased by merchants in contravention of the Cotton Control Order?

(d) How many (if any) of these merchants were members of the Cotton Advisory Board appointed by the Government of India?

(e) Is it a fact that the misconduct of the members of the Cotton Advisory Board was brought to the notice of the Textile Commissioner on the 3rd November, 1950 by the Cotton Extension Officer of the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

(f) What action was taken against the defaulting members and if no action was taken, why not?

(g) Were any licenses of any merchants in 'B' zone cancelled for piercing the ceiling or violating the Cotton Control Order?

(h) Is it a fact that seventeen Licenses of merchants were cancelled in Madhya Bharat?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 29th December, 1950.

(b) The Cotton Advisory Board appointed by the Central Government consisting of representatives of principal Millowners' Associations, the principal cotton Trade Associations, and the Indian Central Cotton Committee had expressed the opinion at a meeting that Government should seal off the zone as prices had pierced the ceilings in that zone. The Chairman of Cotton Marketing Committees of Madhya Pradesh also confirmed that prices had pierced the ceilings.

(c) and (d). From the reports received from the mills to whom allocations of cotton had been made from that zone it was found that the prices had actually pierced the ceilings. Government have no information regarding the merchants who purchased cotton above ceilings or the quantity purchased.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) No. The cancellation of licences is within the purview of the Licencing authorities appointed by the State Government.

(h) Yes, the licences of 17 merchants in Madhya Bharat have been cancelled.

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF CLOTH FROM ENGLAND

*1544. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state.

(a) the quantity of Indian cotton cloth exported to England in 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) the quantity of cotton cloth imported from England in the same period;

(c) how much of the quantity referred to in part (b) above was Indian cloth exported from India; and

(d) what is the cost India pays for the re-imported cloth as compared with the price that India obtained when it first exported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The quantity of cotton cloth exported to United Kingdom in 1949-50 and the nine months April to December, 1950 was 31,225,427 yards and 46,845,024 yards respectively.

(b) The quantity of cotton cloth imported from England in the same periods was 40,142,511 yards and 2,262,595 yards respectively.

(c) This information is not available.

(d) This information is not available.

PRICE-CONTROL ON CLOTH

*1545. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any price-control on either export or import of cloth;

(b) whether the Government of India keep any record of these prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Mills which are permitted to export make large profits;

(d) whether the profits which Mills exporting cloth make are taken into account when supplying cotton at cheap rates to them; and

(e) whether any bonus is arranged to be paid to the growers of cotton which is supplied to the Mills at low rates?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There is no price control on either export or import of cloth.

(b) No record is kept of these prices.

(c) The Mills which export cloth do not necessarily make large profits as the price that is obtained depends upon what prices the foreign markets can bear.

(d) Cotton is not supplied by Government at cheap rates. Under the present cotton control measures mills are able to procure cotton at the controlled price.

(e) The question of giving bonus to cotton growers does not arise as the prices fixed for indigenous cotton are considered to be quite fair to the growers.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY

*1546. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a trade agreement has been signed with Hungary;

(b) if so, the volume of the trade under agreement; and

(c) what are the specifications of goods to be exchanged?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Starred Question No. 1340 asked by Shri Sivaparakasam on the 9th February, 1951 and my reply thereto.

INTERNATIONAL ALLOCATION OF RAW MATERIALS

*1547. **Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for international allocation of scarce raw materials and whether commodity groups are proposed to be set up in Washington;

(b) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to serious shortages of such raw materials for indigenous industries; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to meet the situation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir. The Governments of the U.S.A., U.K. and France have proposed setting up of commodity groups to examine availabilities and to make recommendations to Governments for expanding production, conserving supplies and ensuring best distribution and utilisation. India has already been invited to participate in two groups and it is probable that India will join one or two other committees.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have taken up at diplomatic level the question of securing to India sufficient quotas of essential raw materials which are in short supply and for which we have to depend principally on imports. Government have also liberalised the import policy for industrial raw materials by their inclusion in the O.G.L. and increasing import quotas. Government have set up six Industrial Panels for the Heavy Engineering, Light Engineering, Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Ferrous Metals and Non-Ferrous Metals Industries, whose main function is to advise Government on how materials in short supply should be used to the best advantage and whether any suitable substitutes are available.

AUTOMOBILE COMPONENTS

*1548. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the answers given to parts (d) and (e) of Starred Question No. 1618 put on 11th April, 1950 regarding manufacture of automobile components and state:

(a) whether the information relating to output of automobile components expected to be manufactured

by the protected industries has been collected by the Expert Committee which has been set up by the Government;

(b) whether the information will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) whether the Expert Committee have suggested any revision of Import Tariff applicable to automobile components; and

(d) whether the suggestions will be disclosed to the House?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (d). The Automobile Expert Committee has recently submitted its Report to the Government. The recommendations made by the Committee are at present under consideration and it will not be in pubilc interest to disclose them at this stage.

DERIVATIVES OF COAL

*1549. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state as to what derivatives are produced in India from coal?

(b) What is the annual production and demand in India in respect of each derivative?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 16.]

EXTRADITION BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

*1550. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to make a statement upon the present position regarding extradition of fugitive offenders between India and Pakistan?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): After the 15th August, 1947 the extradition of fugitive offenders between India and Pakistan was regulated by Part I of the Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881 read with section 19 of the Indian Extradition Act, 1903. From the 26th January, 1950, when India attained the status of a Republic, and ceased to be a Dominion, the application of the Fugitive Offenders Act became doubtful and the procedure laid down in that Act could not appropriately be followed.

The Government of India, therefore, are trying to evolve a suitable extradition procedure in consultation with the Government of Pakistan, and pending a final decision in the matter, no action is being taken on outstanding requests for extradition.

SHELTER TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1551. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the approximate number of displaced persons not provided with shelter so far, in different States including the Centrally Administered Areas?

(b) What steps are being taken to provide shelter to these people?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) According to information supplied by the States approximately 56,800 families from West Pakistan are living either in tents, Dharamshalas, temples or in improvised shelters. State-wise distribution is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. Information in regard to the displaced persons of similar class from East Pakistan is not available.

(b) The State Governments have been asked to formulate schemes for providing accommodation to such persons.

STATEMENT

Number of displaced families from West Pakistan without any shelter or living in Dharamshalas, improvised structures etc., as in December, 1950.

State		No. of families
Uttar Pradesh	...	5,000
Ajmer	...	—
Punjab	...	5,300
Vindhya Pradesh	...	1,600
Delhi	...	30,000
Madhya Pradesh	...	—
Bombay	...	11,000
Rajasthan	...	2,600
Madhya Bharat	...	400
Bihar	...	400
Pepsu	...	500
Total	...	56,800

"FORCIBLE IMMIGRATION" OF DISPLACED PERSONS

*1552. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an attempt at "Forcible immigration" into India across the Waga border by over 2,000 displaced persons of Lahore Bowali camp was made on the 21st December, 1950?

(b) Was there any encounter with the armed police squads; and, if so, what was the number of casualties, if any?

(c) Is it a fact that these displaced persons staged a demonstration outside

the office of the Indian Deputy High Commissioner?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). It is reported that certain inmates of the Bowali camp, Lahore, left the camp with the idea of crossing over into India but before they reached the Waga border, they were intercepted by officials of the West Punjab Government with the assistance of armed police and persuaded to return to the camp. No casualities are understood to have occurred.

(c) No. One morning about 300 inmates of the Bowali camp collected on the road adjoining the office and residence of the Deputy High Commissioner for India. They did not stage any demonstration but a deputation from among them met the Deputy High Commissioner who explained to them the arrangements agreed to between the Governments of India and Pakistan for the return to India of Muslims who migrated from the Uttar Pradesh after the disturbances of last year. All of them returned to the camp peacefully thereafter.

TOKEN STRIKE BY INDIAN WORKERS IN CEYLON

*1553. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a token strike by 6 lakhs of Indian workers in Ceylon employed in tea and rubber estates was staged on the 26th December, 1950?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): No. There has been no such strike.

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS

*1554. **Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps have been taken by Government to meet the needs of essential industrial raw materials imported from other countries, in view of the emergency caused by the 'Stock-Piling' policy adopted by the U.S.A., U.K. and other countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Government have liberalised the import policy for industrial raw materials by

(i) expanding the Open General Licence; and

(ii) increasing import quotas. The question of granting advance licences for the next half-year is also being considered. In cases where foreign countries have instituted controls on exports, the question of securing larger quotas for India has been taken up with the producing countries through appropriate channels. The subject was also discussed at the Commonwealth Conference recently held in the U.K.

Further Government have constituted six Industrial Panels, *viz.* for the Heavy Engineering, Light Engineering, Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Ferrous Metals and Non-Ferrous Metals industries, whose main function is to advise Government how materials in short supply should be used to the best advantage and whether any suitable substitutes are available.

RUBBER TYRES (PRICE)

*1555. **Shri Sivan Pillay:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase of 15 per cent. in the price of rubber tyres has been allowed;

(b) when that decision was taken; and

(c) whether this increased price for tyres has come into effect and if so, from which date?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri (Mahtab): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) On the 19th January, 1951.

(c) Yes, Sir, with effect from the 22nd January 1951.

LANDBORNE-TRADE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

*1556. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with whom India is having *landborne-trade* at present; and

(b) whether India is having favourable balance of trade with them?

The Deputy-Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) India has land-borne trade with Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Nepal, Tibet and the French and the Portuguese Settlements in India.

(b) A statement showing balance of land-borne trade with Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Nepal in 1949-50 and the eight months April to November 1951 is placed on the Table of the House from which it will be seen that India had an unfavourable balance in land-borne trade with Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran and favourable balance of trade with Nepal. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 17.] Statistics of trade with Tibet and the French and the Portuguese Settlements in India are not available.

RELAXATION OF IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS AGAINST INDIANS IN CANADA

*1557. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Government of Canada have agreed to relax immigration restrictions against Indians by throwing open her doors to 150 citizens of India each year for permanent residence in that country?

The Deputy-Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Yes, an Agreement to this effect has been concluded between India and Canada.

DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS IN OCCUPIED KASHMIR

*1558. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the press report, that thousands of Hindus and Sikh displaced persons are still passing their days in great misery in displaced persons camps in Muzzafarabad, Poonch, Alibagh, Bangla and other places of occupied Kashmir?

(b) If so, what steps are being taken to repatriate these people to India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) We have seen such reports from time to time.

(b) The matter was taken up with the Pakistan Government who have informed us that they were taking steps to transfer, at as early a date as possible, all non-Muslim displaced persons (including those in Camps) who wished to come over to India.

SCRUTINY OF CLAIMS OF PROPERTIES LEFT IN PAKISTAN

*1559. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether notices are being issued by some Sub-Committees, set up for the scrutiny of claims of properties left in Pakistan to the displaced persons to appear before them within two days, and also deposit expenses for two witnesses being called?

(b) If so, what action has been taken by Government to put an end to this procedure?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No sub-committee has been set up for the scrutiny or verification of claims to property left in Western Pakistan by the displaced persons.

(b) Does not arise.

REFINERIES FOR CRUDE PETROLEUM

*1560. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) how many refineries there are in India which process imported crude petroleum;

(b) what is the capacity of these refineries; and

(c) whether Government are considering installation of any more refineries?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) There are no refineries in India which process imported crude oil.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government are anxious to encourage the putting up of one or more such refineries.

Kapas IN P.E.P.S.U.

*1561. **Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the total production of unginned and ginned *Kapas* in PEPSU of 1950 and 1951 crop?

(b) Is there any control on unginned and ginned *Kapas* in PEPSU?

(c) What is the total number of bales of ginned *Kapas i.e.* cotton exported outside PEPSU to foreign countries of 1950 and 1951 crop?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Information regarding production of cotton in *kapas* form is not available. The production of cotton lint in full pressed bales of 400 lbs. each in PEPSU during the current season 1950-51 (from 1st September 1950 to 31st August, 1951) is estimated at 182,000 bales.

(b) There is no control on the prices of unginned cotton, *i.e., Kapas* but there is control on its movement by road, rail or air to stations outside PEPSU. As regards ginned *kapas i.e.*, cotton there is control both in regard to price as well as for the movement to stations outside PEPSU.

(c) 27,815 bales up to 12-2-51.

TIN

*1562. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the present policy of supplying tin to actual consumers in India?

(b) How much tin was imported in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(c) Is it a fact that some factories have to work double shift to consume tin supplied to them, while certain other factories are idle for about eight or nine months in a year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Government no longer purchase, stock and distribute tin to consumers. The consumers have to make their own arrangements to purchase the metal from the local market or to import it from abroad.

(b) 1948 8135 tons, 1949 5544 tons, 1950 3129 tons.

(c) Government have no such information.

ART AND RAW SILK

*1563. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the import policy of the Government of India regarding supply of art silk and raw silk?

(b) Is this imported silk to be distributed through private agency or through government?

(c) What is the present ceiling amount of imports of art and raw silk?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The import of both art silk and raw silk is allowed under monetary ceilings.

(b) Only in the case of handloom weavers distribution is being made by the Government. Raw silk is imported by the State Governments who distribute the same to the handloom weavers in their respective States. For Art silk yarn, licences are issued to the Established importers on the condition that they will sell it to the handloom weavers only under the directions of the State Directors of Industries.

(c) The import ceilings fixed by the Government are kept confidential and cannot be disclosed.

IMPORTS OF CAUSTIC SODA AND SODA ASH

*1564. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of Caustic Soda, Soda Ash etc., imported in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take for adequate supply of these materials in 1951 for their equitable distribution to bonafide users?

(c) What commitments have India made at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference held recently in London, regarding supply of raw materials?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) I would draw the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given by me to part (c) of Starred Question No. 1547.

(c) No commitments have been made.

STATEMENT

I. Imports of Caustic Soda during the years 1948, 1949 *and* 1950.

Year	Quantity (in Cwts.)	Value (in thousands of rupees)
1948	1786040	76124
1949	460953	12093
1950	427071	8277

II. As regards Soda ash the information required is not available. However, the figures of Licences issued for Soda ash during the period January-June 1950 and July-December are given below.

Period	Value (in thousands of rupees)
January-June 1950	5,17
July-December 1950	38,44

TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRES IN U.P.

*1565. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Technical Training Centres of the Ministry in the state of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of teachers and trainees in the centre at Benares;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been no teacher for the last three months;

(d) whether it is a fact that many trainees have migrated to Aligarh Centre; and

(e) if so, what steps do Government propose to take to improve the management of the Benares Centre?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 8.

(b) Instructors 26: Trainees 311.

(c) No. only two posts are unfilled. Against one of these recruitment has

been made and the person selected is expected to join immediately. Efforts are being made to fill up the other vacancy which occurred in December, 1950. Pending recruitment the class is being looked after by Supervisory Instructors. Part-time services of the regular staff of the College are also being utilized.

(d) No. Voluntary migrations are permissible. Six trainees of the Draughtsmen-Mechanical Class have however been transferred to the Aligarh Centre to relieve congestion at Benares.

(e) Does not arise.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN PUNJAB

*1566. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where new houses, new towns and markets have been constructed for displaced persons in the State of Punjab;

(b) the amount spent by the Centre and the amount spent by the State on these constructions;

(c) the income gained by Government by the sale of such houses and rent received from the displaced persons;

(d) the number of houses spoiled and destroyed by recent heavy rains and floods; and

(e) the cost incurred on the repairs and reconstruction of these houses?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

INDIAN NATIONALS IN CEYLON

*1567. **Shri V. Ramaiah:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the amount which an Indian national living in Ceylon is allowed to remit to his dependents living in India?

(b) Is there a similar restriction on remittances by other nationals living in Ceylon to their dependents living elsewhere?

(c) What steps have Government taken to remove the hardships experienced by Indians living in Ceylon in the matter of remittances to their dependents?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) An individual is allowed to remit to his dependants in India, an amount generally not exceeding 1/3 of his current earnings in Ceylon. Estate Labourers in Ceylon are permitted to remit an amount of Rs. 60/- per quarter through the Superintendent of the Estate. In addition, an Indian resident is permitted to take with him reasonable amounts on his periodical visits to India. Remittance of amounts in excess of the authorised limit is also permitted for special reasons.

(b) In the earlier stages of Ceylon Exchange Control, there was some distinction between Indians and other sterling area nationals in regard to the maximum limit of remittances allowed. The Government of India are not aware whether any distinction has been maintained after the introduction of the system of general permits from January, 1950. Information on this point is being collected and will be supplied to the House when available.

(c) The Government of India have made representations to the Government of Ceylon from time to time. Discussions are still in progress. In the meantime the High Commissioner for India in Ceylon has been taking up cases of hardship *ad hoc* with the authorities in Ceylon.

FALL OF CREST OF THE *Ghantaghar*, DELHI

*1568. **Shri S. V. Naik:**
Shri M. L. Gupta: Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the crest of the *Ghantaghar* in Delhi has fallen down and if so, when;

(b) the causes that led to this fall;

(c) the total number of casualties including those killed and injured;

(d) the extent of the damage caused to the property—public, private and Government;

(e) whether the *Ghantaghar* square has been opened to traffic;

(f) what steps have been taken by Government to prevent the further falling of the structure; and

(g) whether an enquiry has been ordered by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes; the crest of the Clock Tower collapsed on 7th February, 1951 at about, 10.15 A.M.

(b) This portion of the Clock Tower was rather delicate in construction of stone and brick work. Examination showed that the mortar of this structure had deteriorated with age (now about 80 years) with the result that the pillars were unable to take the load, causing the collapse without warning.

(c) Total casualties were 14, out of which 9 persons were killed and 5 injured.

(d) Delhi Central Electric Power Authority sustained a loss to the extent of Rs. 5,000/- on account of damage to the street lighting. One rickshaw and two cycles costing about Rs. 600 belonging to the persons injured or killed were also damaged.

(e) The square round the Clock Tower has been barricaded, leaving space for pedestrian traffic. Diversion has been provided for vehicular traffic on Chandni Chowk except from Nai Sarak end.

(f) The loose material has been removed from the top and scaffolding work is almost complete for removal of the heavier material which is in a dangerous condition. The question whether the remaining portion of the structure can be retained or not is still under examination.

(g) The Local Administration has appointed a Magistrate to hold an enquiry in the matter.

FAILURES OF ELECTRICITY IN CONSTITUTION HOUSE

99 **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the **Minister of Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Constitution House is a Government-managed hostel;

(b) whether Government are aware of the failures of electric current from time to time; and

(c) whether Government are aware that these failures continue for hours before they are repaired?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Government are aware that such failures do occur occasionlly, not only in the Constitution House but also in the neighbouring areas. They are due to the burning of fuses, in the nearest distribution pillars of the New Delhi Municipal Committee, caused mainly by overloading of the supply line through unauthorised use of extra current by the residents. Every effort is made to set right the failures as soon after their occurrence as possible; but comparatively longer delays in certain instances *e.g.* replacement of damaged cables, are unavoidable. It should be appreciated that the failures are not due to faulty installation, but on the other hand prevent serious damage which might result otherwise as a consequence of overload.

YARN

100. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps Government are taking to supply adequate yarn to cotton mills for increasing cloth production?

(b) Is it a fact that some mills in West Bengal are lying idle since more than eight months for lack of sufficient yarn?

(c) If the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps do Government propose to take to supply yarn either indegenous or foreign to such mills?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) In order to make adequate supplies of yarn available to cotton weaving mills the Government of India have taken the following steps:

(1) Issue of further licences for the export of yarn have been stopped with effect from the 4th January, 1951.

(2) Increased ex-mill prices of yarn have been announced with effect from the 1st February 1951, which will be remunerative enough to the mills to step up their production of free yarn.

(3) (i) Import of yarn of counts 80s and above to the tune of Rs. 65 lakhs during the first half of 1951, has been allowed; and

(ii) 66,000 bales of American cotton have been supplied to the spinning mills at subsidised rates for the production of yarn, for the handloom Industry. This will, indirectly, make available more yarn for the consumpton of powerloom factories.

(b) No. However, Bangodaya Cotton Mills, Calcutta, a powerloom factory had approached the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, for assistance in the procurement of yarn, who modified the allotment of yarn to West Bengal so as to enable the Director of Textiles, West Bengal Government, to meet the requirements of this factory. Similarly two other Powerloom factories in the West Bengal, namely, Shri Guru Weaving Factory and Cader Plighton & Co., also assistance for procurement of yarn and they were asked to approach the Director of Textiles, West Bengal.

(c) Does not arise.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 20th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIAN SHIPPING (DEVELOPMENT)

*1569. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had addressed any note to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce about the development of Indian Shipping; and

(b) if so, whether they have received any reply?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). There has been some correspondence between Government and the Federation in regard to the development of Indian shipping. In reply to a letter from the Federation, asking for clarification on certain points, it was explained to them that the broad policy of Government was that the Indian Merchant Navy of the future should ultimately be built up with one hundred per cent. capital, control and management of the nationals of the country, but as the existing financial stringency set a limit to our own unaided efforts to build up our Merchant Navy, the Federation was asked for their views as to whether, in such circumstances, they would advise postponement of the development of Indian shipping until we were in a position to build up the industry ourselves without external aid or whether they would consider it worthwhile to expand it by taking help from outside, if available on satisfactory terms with adequate safeguards. In their reply the Federation have stated that they are definitely opposed to the formation of a shipping combine by Government with foreign shipping interests.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What have the Government decided—whether the participation of foreign capital for the development of Indian shipping is advisable, and if so with any safeguards?

Shri Santhanam: For the present the Government are not contemplating it. But if at any future time the matter is to be considered, it will be considered on its merits.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any scheme with the Government for the development of Indian shipping?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, there is a scheme, but the scheme is held up on financial considerations.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce given any idea as to how its constituents can contribute to the funds?

Shri Santhanam: The position of those people who are interested in Indian shipping today is that they are not able to find the money. They want the Government of India to find the money and they say that we should not take foreign assistance.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether at any stage there was any talk for the formation of an Indo-British Corporation for the purpose and, if so, whether that talk has been abandoned?

Shri Santhanam: At no time was there any regular talk. Certain informal proposals were made at some time to the Government and it was on the basis of those informal talks that the Federation was consulted, and after the Federation sent their views the matter was dropped.

Shri Joachim Alva: Did the foreign shipping companies convey their reactions to these proposals in any shape or manner?

Shri Santhanam: There was no proposal. Certain foreign shipping companies made certain feelers and we wanted to find out the reactions of the Indian Federation to those feelers. When they were positively hostile the whole matter was dropped.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know what is the addition of tonnage due to the policy now being pursued by Government?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, the question referred only to the correspondence between Government and the Federation. I would require notice for further information.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the present tonnage of Indian shipping?

Shri Santhanam: That matter was not referred to in the question at all. I want notice.

Shri Poonacha: May I know the percentage of goods handled by the Indian shipping concerns so far as our overseas trade is concerned?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to supply that information during the Budget debate.

Shri Kamath: It is pleasure deferred!

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It will become more pleasant then.

TOOFAN EXPRESS ACCIDENT (ENQUIRY)

*1570. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether judicial enquiry into the causes of accident to 320 Down Goods and 7 Up Toofan Express trains on the night of August 12-13 between Karmnasa and Durgawati on the East Indian Railway has been completed; and

(b) if so, the results of the enquiry?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Mr. Justice Bose, who conducted the judicial enquiry into the accident, has rejected the theory put forward by the Bihar State Police that the derailment of the Goods train appeared to have been the result of some defect in the track or in the rolling stock. He has agreed *in toto* with the findings of the Government Inspector of Railways, namely, that—

(i) the derailment of 320 Down Goods train at mile 394/10-11 between Durgawati and Karmnasa in the early hours of the morning of the 13th August, 1950, was due to the removal by a person or persons unknown of fishplates etc; and

(ii) the Drivers of the two trains took all possible steps within the time at their disposal to avert the accident to the 7 Up Toofan Express but could not do so.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if the hon. Judge who held the enqiury has passed certain strictures against the Bihar Police or the officers who were connected with the enquiry? If so, will the hon. Minister read out the observations made about the police officers concerned?

Shri Gopalaswami: Sir, I have not got the Report with me, but I remember that the hon. Judge did pass certain comments on what was done by way of investigation by the Bihar State Police. They were not altogether complimentary.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the reasons which have been assigned by the hon. Judge for controverting the theory placed by the Government of Bihar?

Shri Gopalaswami: If the hon. Member would wish to have the fullest particulars about this I am willing to hand over the Report of the hon. Judge to him for study.

Shri M. L. Gupta: Will the hon. Minister lay the Report on the Table of the House?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no objection.

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): I think it is already in the Library.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Placing it on the Table of the House means that it has to be printed along with the Proceedings.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the comments passed by the hon. Judge amounted to this that the evidence given by some of the responsible police officers was false? If so, may I know what action has been taken on the remarks of the hon. Judge?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not think he went so far as that. He certainly came to the conclusion that the conclusions reached by the Bihar State Police on certain evidence on which they relied were not correct and that really the conclusions reached by the Government Inspector of Railways were correct.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Was not any attempt made, according to him, to create evidence?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has not got the Report with him, nor the oral evidence etc.

Shri Sonavane: Has the hon. Judge who conducted the enquiry suggested any measures to avoid further accidents?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is very difficult for any Judge to suggest measures for averting accidents.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think in a matter like this the hon. Minister must have the report.

Shri Gopalaswami: The report is already in the Library. If necessary, I will lay it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: True, but the hon. Minister is asked questions and he has not got the report with him, which is relevant to the question.

Shri Gopalaswami: If necessary, I will read from the notes. I have some extracts from it.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the hon. Justice Bose suggested any *mala fide* or dishonest motives on the part of the Police Officer and if so, what steps have Government taken in the matter?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know if he has suggested *mala fides*. I do not think he has. It is a mistaken kind of judgment and whatever comments he has made on the conduct of the State Police will be communicated to the proper quarters.

Shri T. Husain *rose*—

Shri Hussain Imam: I wanted to say that it may be laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said so already. Hon. Members must be attentive and no one ought to speak except those who put the questions, so that this kind of request once again would not appear. The hon. Minister has already said that he has no objection to place it on the Table of the House.

GLIDER RESEARCH SCHEME

*1571. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government have any two-year glider research scheme?

(b) If so, how many gliders are proposed to be produced during this period?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Research for the development of proto-type gliders was undertaken during 1950-51 at the Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad. The question of continuance of the scheme in 1951-52 is under consideration.

(b) One Primary proto-type glider has been constructed and test flown. A second Primary proto-type glider is under construction and is expected to be ready for flight test in March 1951. If it is decided to continue the scheme in 1951-52, the construction of two more proto-type gliders namely one intermediary glider and one "Olympia" advanced sail-plane will be undertaken.

Shri Kamath: How many gliders have been imported during the last year and from which countries?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice for that question.

Shri Kamath: Is the hon. Minister aware that one Mr. Antonius Raub manufactured two gliders in 1948 in Baroda, and if so, what has happened to those gliders?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice for that question also.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What is the approximate cost of a glider?

Shri Kidwai: The proto-type glider manufactured in Allahabad did cost us Rs. 12,000 but it is estimated that if manufacture of that type is undertaken, the manufacturing cost will be Rs. 3,500 and the comparative cost of the proto-type glider of the same type will be about Rs. 4,950.

Shri Hussain Imam: Has the Hindustan Aircraft Factory been asked to undertake this and have any estimates been received from them?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of such requests being made to the Hindustan Aircraft Factory.

Shri Kamath: Is it proposed to depute any officers abroad to receive training in the manufacture of gliders?

Shri Kidwai: It is not necessary.

Shri Kamath: Are any experts being imported into India?

Shri Kidwai: If we decide to manufacture for our use, then we have got the personnel equipped for the manufacture of those gliders.

SUGAR FOR COCA-COLA

*1572. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the quantity of sugar supplied to Coca-Cola factories?

(b) Has any aerated water manufacturer made representation to Government regarding the short supply of sugar to his factories?

(c) Has any preference been shown to the Coca-Cola factories for the supply of sugar against the established manufacturers in India for their sugar quota?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The quantity of sugar allotted to the Coca-Cola factory at Delhi since it went into production in October, 1950 is 37 tons for consumption upto the end of March, 1951.

(b) A representation was made by the Aerated Water Manufacturers' Association, in Delhi in October, 1950.

(c) No. A quota upto 50 per cent. of their estimated requirement has been allotted to the firm. This cut applies to others as well.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this quantity of 37 tons. which the hon. Minister has stated, has been given under the Food Production Control Order or ordinarily under the usual way by which manufacturers of aerated water get it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The license is issued under the Food Production Order, 1948 while the sugar is given under the usual distribution of rations.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this Coca-Cola is considered to be harmful and is it a fact that the National Assembly of France passed a Bill (second reading) stating that this Coca-Cola is objectionable as it contains a certain percentage of injurious Caffeine? Is that correct and have Government made any analysis of this Coca-Cola?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is said that it is a nutritious drug free from any harmful ingredients, manufactured and bottled in a hygienic way. Actual analysis is under verification.

Shri Sidhva: That is what the manufacturers say as far as their advertisements are concerned. May I ask whether his attention has been drawn to the Bill which has been passed in the National Assembly and whether Government have taken any steps to find out by analysis whether this is harmful?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am glad the hon. Member has drawn my attention to what was said in France. As I pointed out the actual analysis of the product is under verification.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Does the Government consider that the nutritious value of Coca-Cola is greater than that of an indigenous aerated water or why else this preference?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is difficult to say as to the relative merits of the others because those are synthetic products of certain essences, colours and saccharine.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: My question was: Does the Government consider, it has greater nutritional value?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Analysis will show that. I cannot say anything about it just now.

Shri Satish Chandra: On a point of order, Sir, is it proper for the hon. Food Minister to advertise a company's goods of which no analysis has been made so far? It is a third-rate aerated water.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall give the hon. Member an opportunity to put that question. Mr. Sidhva.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the aerated water factories of long-standing in Delhi have got the full quantity or have their quota been cut down because that quantity was given to this Coca-Cola Factory?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The quantity of sugar given to Coca-Cola is cut down in the same proportion as other manufacturers but Coca-Cola requires only one-third of the sugar that is necessary for other aerated waters because the imported syrup contains a quantity of sugar.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these manufacturers are opening branches and one is likely to be opened in Bombay and would the Government postpone granting of licences for the supply of sugar until they are satisfied about the analysis?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No application has been received so far as the Central Government is concerned. I do not know whether any application has been made to the Bombay Government.

Shri Sidhva: Will not the Central Government communicate to the Bombay Government the wishes of this House to hold over giving the quantity of sugar required?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Hussain Imam: Will the hon. Minister inform us what is the principle on which they have been allowed to import sugar in the shape of syrup and have others also been allowed to import syrup from foreign countries?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In 1948 the Government of India decided to allow foreign exchange and import license for the working plant. The plan was sponsored really by the Government of India and syrup also came to be imported with the license of the Government of India.

Shri Kamath: In spite of the fact that, according to the hon. Minister himself, Coca-Cola requires only one-third sugar as compared to other aerated waters, is it a fact that the sugar allotted to this Coca-Cola factory in Delhi is more than double the total quantity of sugar given to all the aerated water factories put together?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It all depends on the quantity that is manufactured and the demand of the public. There is a large demand for Coca-Cola.

Shri Goenka: May I know whether at the time when this license was given for the importation of machinery and syrup for this Coca-Cola any undertaking was given to the Company that sugar will also be made available to them?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no idea. I do not think it is possible that any undertaking could have been given.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is the hon. Minister aware that the demand for Coca-Cola can be increased by cutting down the prices and giving preference in the matter of importing syrup?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is hypothetical.

Shri A. B. Gurung: May I know whether it is a fact that Coca-Cola when put in cold storage gets fermented and becomes intoxicating?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no idea and no experience.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: The hon. Minister stated that it is being analysed. May I know what is the essence that is being used: whether it is cocoa or cola or any other?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It can only be known when the analysis is before me.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know how many other kinds of colas are being prepared in this country?

Shri Goenka: May I know whether the Government went into the merits of Coca-Cola at the time when licence was given for the importation of machinery worth 25 lakhs of rupees?

Shri K. M. Munshi: This was in 1948. If the hon. Member is so anxious to know, I might make enquiries. I do not know anything about it.

Shri Kamath: What is the total quantity of sugar allotted to all the other aerated water factories in Delhi during that period?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice about that.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Since the introduction of this industry, other indigenous industries of aerated waters, which are being done on a cottage basis, are going out of the market and dying out. In the near future, vast unemployment may occur in the industry. May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to this aspect of the question and whether they have considered it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: First of all, fruit drinks are not cottage industries at all. They are synthetic products prepared from imported essences, colours and saccharine. There is no trespass upon their trade because the sugar that was being given to them is already given.

Shri Chaliha: What about sharbat? It is a cottage industry.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know why it was necessary for the Central Supply Department to allot sugar to this Coca-Cola manufacturing concern while the other aerated water factories receive their quota from the Delhi State Supply Department.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think—I speak subject to correction—this is also given by the Delhi Administration in the same way.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have had enough of Coca-Cola. Next question.

Shri Goenka: One question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Delhi Transport Service

*1573. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what was the profit earned during the last year by the Delhi Transport Service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The net profit earned by the Delhi Transport Service amounted to Rs. 3,95,091 during the financial year 1949-50.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether after the transfer of this D.T.S. from Government to the Delhi Transport Authority, they are considering the question of reduction of fares in pursuance of the statements made by the hon. Minister of State on the floor of this House, and if so, what is the result? If not, has the hon. Minister

drawn the attention of the Authority that they should consider this question?

Shri Santhanam: The Delhi Transport Authority knows very well the undertakings given in this House. They have been informed of it and reminded of it. But, unfortunately, recent developments especially in the matter of taxation have put up the expenditure to a great extent. For instance, in 1949-50, the working expenses were 48.73 lakhs. They have risen in 1950-51, the estimate being based on the 9 months' actuals, to 55.45 lakhs. It is expected that there will be no profit even under the present charges for the year 1950-51.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this profit of four lakhs is after deducting for depreciation: whether it is gross profit or net profit?

Shri Santhanam: It is net profit after providing for depreciation, and deducting interest.

Shri Sidhva: In view of that, may I know whether the Government will consider the question of asking them to reduce the fares by 25 per cent., in view of the heavy demands on the passengers for the last four years?

Shri Santhanam: The hon. Member asked about the profit for the year 1949-50. I gave it as 3.95 lakhs. But, it is expected that in 1950-51, there will be no profit whatsoever.

Shri Sidhva: Why?

Shrimati Durgabai: What proportion of this profit was utilised for providing amenities to passengers? If any amenities are provided, what are they?

Shri Santhanam: The main amenity which is sought to be provided is the purchase of new and better buses.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What was the average profit of the GNIT which was the predecessor of the Delhi Transport Authority?

Shri Santhanam: We have got this business from the beginning of 1949 I should conduct historical researches to get at the profits of that company.

گیانی جی - ایس - [مسافر : کیا مالنیے ملتری اس بات سے واقف ہیں کہ جو راج دھانی کی دھلی ٹرانسپورٹ سروس ہے وہ کلکتہ اور بمبئی ایسے بڑے شہروں کے مقابلہ میں بہت نکمی ہے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the Delhi Transport Service of the Capital is far less efficient in comparison to such services operating in the big cities of Bombay and Calcutta?]

Shri Santhanam: I am fully aware and I have already expressed to the House that because we had to take over the D.T.S. in a very deplorable condition, we have not yet been able to put this D.T.S. on a level with the services in other big cities. But, every effort is being made to improve. There are 40 new buses which have already arrived. Forty more have been ordered out of which 14 have arrived and 26 are arriving in the next two or three months. We are ordering another 80 buses of the same new type. When they arrive, I think the service in Delhi will be as good as in the other cities.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: My hon. friend stated that he is going to carry on some historical researches. I want to know the profits of the G.N.I.T. May I know whether, when the company was taken over, and big amounts were paid to them, the profit which that company was earning was not taken into account?

Shri Santhanam: May I suggest to you, Sir, that questions relating to 1947 and 1948 are out of date. Unless a particular question is put,—this D.T.S. is being under question for the last three years—to expect that I should carry figures for 1947-48 in 1951 is rather too much.

Shri Sidhva: It is not a big load that he cannot carry. *(Interruption).*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. When I am standing, do not hon. Members know that they should resume their seats?

I am afraid the hon. Minister must have all this information with him. (Several hon. Members: *Hear, hear*). Order, order. The question is:

"Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what was the profit earned during the last year by the Delhi Transport Service?"

Naturally, he must expect supplementary questions on what were the average profits during the last 3 or 4 years to compare. In these circumstances, to say that 1947 is such a remote date is not understandable.

Shri Santhanam: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I have got figures for all the years during which that Service has been under the Government of India. I am asked to state the profits which a private company obtained before we

took over the Service. I think I will have to get at the balance sheets before I can supply those figures.

Shri K. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, whether there is any rule to discuss whether to answer a question or not to answer a question? If an hon. Minister does not answer or wants notice, where is the occasion for such a long discussion?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With your permission, Sir, one question. Does not the hon. Minister compare the profits which the D.T.S. is earning today with the previous company's profits? Unless this is done, how does the hon. Minister know that the Service is running efficiently?

Shri Santhanam: We do not propose to compare the service which the Delhi Transport Authority is rendering with the poor service which was being rendered by the D.T.S.

Seth Govind Das: May I know whether the fares for this service for various distances are the same as are in other cities or higher than in other cities?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are straying far away.

Shri Santhanam: They are cheaper than in the Central Provinces.

Seth Govind Das: Sir, I am not asking about the Central Provinces, and it is not a right fling. I want to know whether the fares in Bombay and Calcutta.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We now go to the next question. We are actually straying far, far away from the question proper which relates to profits. We are going to the question of fares in other services in various parts of India.

CIVIL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS (INVESTIGATION)

*1574. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 940 on the 18th December 1950 and state the result of the investigation on the 12 accidents of civil aircraft that took place?

(b) In the remaining 24 in which the causes of accidents were stated to be the fault of the pilot and other engine defects, what steps have Government taken?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Investigation has so far been completed on ten out of the twelve accidents. 6 of these 10 accidents were due to errors on the part of the pilots, 3 due to engine trouble and one due to a man crossing the airstrip during the landing of the aircraft.

(b) I lay on the Table a statement showing the action taken. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 18.]

Shri Sidhva: With reference to the 18 cases which were due to error on the part of the pilot, may I know what kind of error was that which necessitated the taking away of the life of so many passengers? I want to know whether the hon. Minister has borne in mind the seriousness of the matter and whether the punishment meted out has been sufficient?

Shri Kidwai: Error of judgment.

Shri Sidhva: But error of judgment of what nature? The lives of passengers are concerned and we would like to know whether the error of judgment was in connection with the decision given by the ground engineers that the plane could take off, whether the pilot acted in consonance with this decision or whether he exercised his own judgment and said that it would be safe to take off the plane against the judgment of the ground engineer?

Shri Kidwai: Error of judgment means the pilot's judgment about how to land and when to land, and not about any defect in the machinery.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether there was any case of overloading?

Shri Kidwai: Not in these cases.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether these cases relate only to passenger planes, or do they relate to planes carrying goods also?

Shri Kidwai: I would require notice, Sir

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, May I know if there is any system of taking the weight of the aircraft before it takes off?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, there is some system.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it in vogue in all the aerodromes?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, it is presumed to be so.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, with regard to the accidents arising out of engine trouble, may I know whether the ground engineer's certificate of reliability of the engine was available

and also what steps are taken to avoid such engine troubles?

Shri Kidwai: So far as commercial planes are concerned, every 24 hours a certificate of air-worthiness has to be obtained. These accidents have happened in the flying clubs and in other places where this is not necessary. Now we are formulating some rules which will necessitate this certificate in their cases also.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : ان حادثوں سے کل نقصان کا کیا اندازہ ہے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** What is the estimated total loss sustained due to these accidents?]

श्री किदवाई : इस वक्त तो मेरे पास इस की इन्फार्मेशन नहीं है क्योंकि यह एक पिछला सवाल था जिस के बारे में उन्होंने पूछा था कि क्या ऐक्शन लिया गया ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** At present, I have got no information on the subject as this is a question which was asked by him previously regarding the action taken by the Government.]

Shri Sidhva: With reference to the cases which were due to defects in the engine and other defects in the aircraft, may I know whether they were detected before the plane took off and also what happened to those engines later on? How were the defects removed and are they airworthy now?

Shri Kidwai: In all cases where the accident was due to the defect in the engine, of course, after the accident and not before. Otherwise the pilot himself would not have taken off.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, my point is whether a certificate of air-worthiness was given before they took off.

Shri Kidwai: They were private-owned flying club planes.

Shri Joachim Alva: On a previous occasion the hon. Minister said he would have a quick, ready-made and complete personnel to go to the place of an accident and investigate the cause, and not wait for an expert to come from Europe which delayed the investigation report by months. What has been done in this respect?

Shri Kidwai: We have got a personnel ready.

Shri Chattopadhyay: Sir, in view of the large number of accidents due to error of judgment, may I know what steps are taken by the Government to examine whether a pilot has taken any intoxicating drink during the prohibited period?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member will suggest any remedy for the cases he refers to, I will consider it.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know, Sir, if there is a Director of Training in the Civil Aviation Directorate?

Shri Kidwai: There is one.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know his name?

Shri Kidwai: I require notice, Sir.

Shri Dwivedi: Sir, is it a fact that most of these planes are Dakotas and not fit to be in service?

Shri Kidwai: They are planes in the flying clubs and not Dakotas.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I know whether investigation into the accident which took place somewhere in the Nilgiris between Bangalore and Coimbatore early in December last has been completed?

Shri Kidwai: We have not yet received the report.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Sir, what steps are being taken to see that the certificates of air-worthiness are issued after due examination of the machines?

Shri Kidwai: That is what the engineers responsible for it are supposed to do. Otherwise their licences will be cancelled.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Sir, is it a fact that the engines of most of our planes have deteriorated?

Shri Kidwai: No.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, it was stated that there were 37 deaths and 12 cases of major injuries; also that out of the 36 notifiable accidents, 12 are under investigation. May I know how many of those planes are private-owned and how many public-owned Dakotas?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member is referring to the answer given to a question put in December, I have to say I have not got the information with me here now.

Termination of Services of Justice R. Puttaraj Urs

*1575. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the report of the enquiry made by the Chief Justice of India in regard to the termination of the services of Justice R. Puttaraj Urs of Mysore High Court?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): It is not in the public interest to disclose the contents of the report of the hon. the Chief Justice of India.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, may I know whether there was any judicial enquiry into the matter before the dismissal?

Shri Gopalaswami: It was not a public enquiry. The Chief Justice of India did make an enquiry but you cannot call it a judicial enquiry or a public enquiry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question was whether there was a judicial enquiry before the order of dismissal was passed?

Shri Gopalaswami: The President issued a notification fixing his tenure of office as judge of the High Court after the 26th January, 1950. That order was based upon reports received from the High Court of Mysore, the Government of Mysore and after consultation with the Supreme Court.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, may I know whether at the time of the public enquiry a copy of the charge sheet was denied to Mr. Urs?

Shri Gopalaswami: There was no public enquiry.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What was the nature of the enquiry?

Shri Gopalaswami: The nature of the enquiry was this. The Chief Justice of India went to Bangalore and got together a number of persons who were likely to know the facts in connection with this matter, conferred with the Government, examined their records and I think also enquired into the previous history of this gentleman.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether at the time of making this enquiry the Chief Justice of India did offer a copy of the charge-sheet to Mr. Urs?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think he informed Mr. Puttaraj Urs of certain facts which had been brought to his notice and asked him as to what he had to say about them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is whether there was any formal enquiry and giving of charge-sheet and all that.

Shri Gopalaswami: I have already said there was no such thing.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether Shri Puttaraj Urs was given an opportunity to make his own submission at any stage of the enquiry?

Shri Gopalaswami: Certainly; the hon. the Chief Justice did give him an interview—perhaps more than one interview—and heard his case.

Shri Kamath: What was the length of the period or tenure of office determined by the President under article 376 of the Constitution?

Shri Gopalaswami: It was about a week after the 26th January 1950.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the dismissal order was given on January 26th, 1950, the same day on which the Republic of India was inaugurated?

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe it was dated the 26th January 1950.

Shrimati Durgabai: What were the terms of reference to the Chief Justice for his enquiry?

Shri Gopalaswami: They were to find out whether he considered this particular person suitable to continue as a Judge of the High Court.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the States Ministry asked the Mysore Government to treat Mr. Puttaraj Urs as being on leave and asked them to pay his leave salary?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is so, because Mr. Puttaraj Urs made a representation and before orders could be passed upon that representation a certain amount of time intervened. That period was asked to be treated as period on leave.

Shri Kamath: Am I to understand that the States Ministry more or less revised the order of the President determining the judge's tenure as one week?

Shri Gopalaswami: No, no. The whole question was whether after the termination he should be considered fit to continue as judge.

Shri Kamath: Has the Mysore Government paid his leave salary so far?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think the..... *(interruption).*

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Sir, on a point of order; I learn that a case is pending. Mr. Puttaraj Urs has filed a case against the Mysore Government in order to recover his salary. Whether questions on that subject can be allowed is a matter for your discretion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A suit is pending regarding the recovery of leave salary and challenging the order of the President. We ought not to go into all those matters.

Apart from that I think that this question has been sufficiently answered (*interruption*).

Shri Kamath: Sir, on a point of order, you allowed my question regarding the leave salary of Mr. Puttaraj Urs. The hon. Minister was about to answer but the full answer was not given. If the question is allowed the answer must be given...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is disallowed with retrospective effect... (*interruption*).

Shri Kamath: Sir, on a point of order, may I ask, apart from merry-making, whether under the rules a question can be disallowed with retrospective effect?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A question has to be put first. Only after it is put I can allow or disallow it. The question was put but before the answer was given I disallowed the question.

Shri Kamath: The Minister had half answered it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I must take my own time to hear arguments and then come to a conclusion.

Shri Kamath: *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kamath: I submit to your ruling under protest.

Shri Joachim Alva: I want to ask a question on principle. I want to know what is the policy of the Government of India in regard to the conduct of judges, whether it is their intention to ask the Chief Justice.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There is no use putting hypothetical questions. This is not a case generally of all judges. It is only the case of one judge. Possibly there is a case also pending.....

Shri Kamath: It is a very bad precedent.

Shri Joachim Alva: The Chief Justice has very important work.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I disallow the question.

Services of American Agricultural Experts

*1576. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Union and some States Governments of India have requisitioned the services of some American agricultural experts to advise on and work out their land reclamation plans?

(b) If so, what is the number of those American agricultural experts?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) No American Agricultural Experts are being requisitioned specifically to advise on or work out land reclamation plans, but among the agricultural experts obtained under the U.S. bilateral aid programmes, the services of some experts, on agricultural engineering and allied subjects connected with Land Reclamation, will become available.

(b) The services of three such experts will become available, two for the Government of India and one for the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The experts for the Government of India are specialists in agricultural implements and operation and maintenance of tractors. The expert for the Uttar Pradesh Government is a specialist in organising the manufacture of agricultural implements and machinery. I may add that one of the experts I have mentioned has already arrived.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the policy of the Government in regard to lending the services of agricultural experts to State Governments, whether the Government of India bears the cost or the State Governments concerned are supposed to bear the expenses?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Under the bilateral agreements I have mentioned all the emoluments of the expert, his subsistence allowance and travel to and fro, are met by the U.S. Government. India meets the local costs such as internal transportation, travelling office space and secretarial assistance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know who bears the cost as between the State and the Centre?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It depends upon the needs of the State. If a State requires the assistance of an expert it is given, as in the case of the U.P.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Who bears the cost?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The cost will be borne by the State.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether the expert has joined the Central Government Secretariat or the U.P. Secretariat?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The expert who has arrived is an expert in tractor organisations and he is now attending to the school opened at Bhopal for the Central Tractor Organisation.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it under Point Four Aid that we have received this expert and what other help have we received in agriculture under Point Four?

Shri K. M. Munshi: These three experts are not under Point Four but under bilateral agreement. So far as Point Four Aid is concerned I think we have got two gentlemen: I am speaking subject to correction. They are Messrs Milon and Holmes.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether in the near future India is likely to get the assistance of agricultural experts under the Technical Aid Programme of the Colombo Plan?

Shri K. M. Munshi: We have asked for several agricultural experts.

Shri T. N. Singh: With regard to the experts who have been brought by the Union Government is there any intention to make use of them for reorganising the Tractor Department?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The only expert who has arrived is an expert in organising Tractor schools, and as we found that our C.T.O. operatives were not up to the mark a school was opened at Bhopal and Mr. Rainbow was put in charge of it.

Shri Kamath: In view of the fact that Government have decided to avail themselves of assistance under the Point Four Programme am I to understand that Government have disapproved of or disagreed with the statement made by our Ambassador in Washington last year to the effect that the Point Four Programme is ridiculous?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. It is a matter of opinion.

Shri Kesava Rao: Is it not a fact that most of our young people who have been given expert training in foreign countries recently in agriculture have not been used properly?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think so. That is not correct. These persons are experts: They are not students who have returned from America.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : यह जो अमरीकी विशेषज्ञ केन्द्र में रहेंगे, क्या यह सिर्फ केन्द्र के स्कूलों का काम करेंगे या जिन २ राज्यों में इस समय ट्रेक्टर चल रहे हैं उन राज्यों को भी उन ट्रेक्टरर्स की संख्या के अनुसार भेजे जायंगे ।

[**Seth Govind Das:** Whether the American experts employed in the Centre, will only look after the schools maintained by the Centre or will they also be sent to the various States that are using the tractors, according to the number of tractors used by them?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as Mr. Rainbow is concerned he also goes round to the States and gives such assistance as is required. As regards the other two experts, they also go about the States and even to the villages and study the problems. They advise the States, according as they require.

Shri Rudrappa: I want to know how their services are utilised: whether they have submitted any concrete proposals to the Government of India regarding either intensive or extensive cultivation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have already mentioned Mr. Rainbow is in charge of the School. He goes round the whole country with a view to help the States in organising the tractor operations. As regards Mr. Milon, the Agronomist, he is engaged in studying methods and making the laboratory research results available to the villagers. Mr. Holmes is an expert in extension service. He has worked out a scheme for the Government of India with regard to all-India extension service.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In view of the fact that on many occasions it has been pointed out to Government on the floor of this House that many experts who come back trained abroad, are not fitted in, what steps has the Government taken to see that those Indian agricultural experts who have come back after training abroad are fitted into the scheme?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have already answered the question, Sir.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: That is not a satisfactory answer to that question. I wanted to know what steps Government have taken?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Unless a specific instance is put to me of an expert who has come back and whose services are not availed of, I cannot answer the question.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Does the Tractor Organisation stand in need of reorganisation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, it is already reorganised. Reorganisation started from last July and it is now practically complete.

Shri Meeran: The hon. Minister told the House that these experts are coming to India as a result of a bilateral agreement with America. If so, are we sending any experts to America, or are we doing anything in return for those experts?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I want notice of it. I do not know of our right to send any experts or even whether any expert has been invited by the United States.

Shri Meeran: The hon. Minister himself said it was a result of bilateral agreement between the United States and India.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes, but it is for the United States to ask for an expert from India. I do not know whether they have asked for any so far.

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या इनमें से कुछ विशेषज्ञ मालवा कृषि योजना में प्रयोग किये जा रहे हैं ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** Whether the services of some of these experts are being utilised by the Malwa Development Board?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the C.T.O. is concerned, it operates in a considerable part of Malwa and is working in close association with the Malwa Development Board.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether Mr. Rainbow is expert only in heavy tractors or also in medium-size and small tractors as well?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As he runs a school, he is an expert in training people in all sorts of tractors—small, big and medium-size.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any British soil expert has arrived?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now go to the next question.

TRANSPORT OF GOODS TO ISRAEL

***1577. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether Indian ships transport goods to Israel or call at Israeli ports?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): No, Sir.

Shri Kamath: Is there any treaty of commerce, trade and shipping under consideration between the Indian Government and the Israeli Government?

Shri Santhanam: I am not aware of any such treaty.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Indian ships call at Israeli ports nowadays?

Shri Santhanam: Indian ships do not touch at Israeli ports at present.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Since when have they been avoiding touching at Israeli ports?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think on their present runs they have to touch at Israeli ports.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What about the past? Did they use to touch at Israeli ports or not?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think they have had to go to Israeli ports.

Shri Kamath: Have the Israeli Government made any approach to the Government of India in connection with the opening of trade between India and Israel?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think I can answer that question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question —Pandit M. B. Bhargava. The hon. Member is absent. It is an important question. It may be taken as having been asked from the Chair.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): I am very glad, Sir, you take so much interest in food.

FOOD RATIONING

***1578. Mr. Deputy-Speaker** on behalf of **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total population in India under (i) Statutory rationing; and (ii) Informal rationing?

(b) What percentage does this bear to the total population of India;

(c) What is the total quantity of each kind of food grains supplied to such population in the (i) Statutory rationing, and (ii) Informal rationing areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The population under statutory rationing and other types of rationing on 31st December, 1950 was 45.36 million and 79.45 million respectively.

(b) The total rationed population on 31st December, 1950 formed about 35.6 per cent of the total population of the country.

(c) The total issues from Government stocks in 1950 against rationing commitments was about 7.6 million tons of foodgrains. Of these, approximately 4 million tons was accounted for by the statutorily rationed areas and the balance by the areas served by other types of rationing.

Complete information regarding grainwise offtake separately for statutory rationing and other types of rationing is not available. Of the total quantity of 7.6 million tons issued by Government in 1950 under different forms of rationing, approximately 3.4 million tons was rice, 2.7 million tons wheat and 1.5 million tons other grains.

Seth Govind Das: On a point of order, Sir. According to the rules is the Chair allowed to put a question which stands in a Member's name, as you have just done?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There was a desire expressed by a number of Members on this side that this question may be put though the person who tabled it is not here. When such questions are given notice of, on account of the importance of the question the House gets seized of it. I think the Chair has got every right, in the interests of the House, to put such questions. The Chair is not a dummy here.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is there any regular inspection to find out whether the accounts made out by the retailers in the statutory rationed areas is correct or incorrect?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I understand there is periodic inspection of these ration shops.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know what is the difference between statutory rationing and informal rationing and whether there is a demand for the introduction of statutory rationing instead of the other kind of rationing?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After so many years of rationing the hon. Member wants to know what is statutory rationing and what is informal rationing?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know of any such general demand. At places where scarcity arises people do ask for going over from non-statutory to statutory rationing.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whose responsibility it is to feed the rural population who have no food at all—is the State Government or the Central Government responsible?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Of course the State Government and the Central Government.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know the difference in the issue price of grains between the statutory rationing area and the informal rationing area?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There may be a difference but I should like to have notice.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know what is the present system of distribution of foodgrains in those areas where usually rural rationing prevails?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am not able to follow the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question hour is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

FINANCIAL ADVISER (SINDRI FERTILIZER FACTORY)

Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the statement made in the House on the 7th February, 1951, regarding the Sindri Fertilizer Factory and state:

(a) when the Financial Adviser belonging to the Finance Ministry was appointed and posted at Sindri and what are his functions, status and salary;

(b) whether the Financial Adviser has been appointed exclusively for the Sindri Factory or he has other functions to perform;

(c) whether the General Manager is also vested with certain financial powers and, if so, what are the limits thereof; and

(d) whether there is any overlapping in the powers of the Financial Adviser and those of the General Manager?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There are two qualified Finance Officers now working in Sindri. One was appointed in June 1947 and the other in February 1950. Both of them have the same rank and status as Assistant Accounts Officers and draw the scale of pay of Rs. 500-35-850. They have been drawn from the Audit and Accounts Department of Government

of India. Their principal functions are the preparation of Budget, scrutiny of vouchers and authorisation of payments and maintenance of accounts. I may add that on the recommendation of the Ministry of Finance and the Auditor-General, Government have decided to appoint a very senior officer of the Audit Department of the rank of Accountant-General, as Controller of Accounts in the Sindri Factory. The Officer is expected to join duty in the next few days.

(b) Yes, exclusively for the Sindri Factory.

(c) Yes, Sir; I lay a statement on the table of the House [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 19].

(d) No, sir; these Assistant Accounts Officers work under the control of the General Manager.

Shri Sidhva: Was the Financial Adviser who was appointed in June 1947 from the Finance Ministry or from some other Department?

Shri Mahtab: These two officers were recommended by the Finance Ministry.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister referred to the appointment of a Financial Adviser in June 1947. I want to know whether this officer was an employee of the Finance Ministry and was sent by the Finance Ministry to the Sindri factory?

Shri Mahtab: These two officers have been drawn from the Audit and Accounts Service. They hold a lien on their old posts.

Shri Sidhva: I have got here a definite statement of the Finance Ministry dated 9th January 1951 to the following effect:

> "No Financial Adviser is attached to the Sindri Fertilizer Project, but certain financial powers have been delegated to the General Manager of the Project for administrative reasons. Cases beyond the financial powers of the General Manager are, however, referred to the Ministry of Industry and supply for sanction in consultation with the Ministry of Finance wherever necessary. The question of appointing a senior officer of the Indian Accounts Service as the Chief Accounts Officer attached to the Sindri Fertilizer Project is under the active consideration of Government."

As you will see, Sir, the Finance Ministry definitely state that there is o Financial Adviser attached to the Sindri Fertilizer Project. In view of this, does the hon. Minister still maintain his statement that this gentleman was appointed by the Finance Ministry?

Shri Mahtab: With your permission, Sir, I may explain the difference between a Financial Adviser and an Accounts Officer. Financial Advisers are deputed by the Finance Ministry to facilitate disposal of matters. Instead of referring the matters to the Finance Ministry through the departments the matters are scrutinised on the spot by the Financial Adviser deputed by the Ministry of Finance. In this particular case, these Accounts Officers are there and their services have been taken over from the Finance Ministry by the Industry and Supply Ministry.

Shri Sidhva: But my definite question is: Is there a Financial Adviser attached to the Sindri Project or not?

Shri Mahtab: My clear answer to that is that there is no Financial Adviser, but there are two qualified Finance Officers.

Shri Sidhva: Then, say so. Now, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in reply to part (c) of the question that he is laying a statement on the Table. Ordinarily, statements are to be obtained from the Notice Office. When I enquired, this statement was not available. Since this is a Short Notice Question, may I request that the hon. Minister may kindly read it?

Shri Mahtab: I have no objection, but it is a statement running to two pages.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Just as in regard to other question copies of statements are placed in the Notice Office, in respect of Short Notice Questions also the same thing should be done.

Shri Mahtab: Copies were placed, I believe. What has happened in this case is that this question was put down for yesterday and as you know, no questions were answered yesterday. Therefore, if the copies have not been placed in the Notice Office, I can place the statement now on the Table Or, the hon. Member can read the statement from my file and ask questions on some other day.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister will kindly place it on the Table.

Shri Sidhva: I would like to be supplied with a copy, Sir.

Shri Mahtab: It will be done.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In view of the fact that as far back as two years ago the Standing Finance Committee

took a decision that in all projects such as Sindri there should be attached independent Financial Advisers drawn from the Finance Ministry—and not under the direction of the Ministry concerned, such as the Industry and Supply Ministry—may I know why in the case of the Sindri Factory no Financial Adviser was attached and even now what is the objection to attaching one?

Shri Mahtab: If it is a fact that that was the decision of the Standing Finance Committee and if it is a fact that this has not been done, it is for the Finance Ministry to reply to it.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the officers of the Finance Ministry stated before the Estimates Committee that the Sindri Factory would go into test production in December 1950 and if so, may I know whether that schedule has been adhered to?

Shri Mahtab: I do not think that that kind of statement was made before the Estimates Committee.

Shri Kamath: It is in the report.

Shri Mahtab: I don't think it is contained in the report either. No date was fixed by which production would take place.

Shri Kamath: Test production in 1950.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Anyhow, it does not arise here.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know to whom the Accounts Officers attached to the Sindri Factory are responsible—are they responsible to the General Manager or to the Finance Ministry?

Shri Mahtab: Since the General Manager was appointed they are under the general control of the G.M. Before that, they were responsible to the Industry and Supply Ministry.

Shri Sidhva: Are the new officers who have been appointed under the Control of the Finance Ministry?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. These are accounts officers appointed for being in charge of accounts. They are under the G.M. No Financial Adviser has been appointed yet by the Finance Ministry.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In view of the positive opinion expressed by the Auditor-General of India that in State enterprises and Corporations there the Accounts Officers are under the G.M. or the head of the Corporation there is the possibility of there being no independent audit, may I enquire from Government whether, in view of the fact the Accounts Officers in the Sindri Project are under the G. M., Government will reconsider this arrangement and make provision for independent audit?

Shri Mahtab: Without making any special arrangement for it, the Auditor-General even today has not the inherent power to make audit of all accounts of Government wherever Government money is involved. But unless there are Accounts officers under the G.M., I do not understand how the G.M. will maintain the accounts in a proper manner.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Wool (Exports)

*1579. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state which are the countries to which sheep wool is being exported?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The bulk of the exports goes to the U.S.A. and U.K. but small quantities are also exported to Canada, Australia, Japan, Saudi Arbia and some of the European Countries.

Substitute Diet

*1580. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what recent researches have been made in connection with substitute diet;

(b) how far success has been achieved, in those researches; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to inculcate the habit of substitute diet among the people?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). Certain amount of work on partial replacement of rice or wheat diet by tapioca or sweet potatoes was recently carried out at the Central Technological Research Institute, Mysore. Further trials to confirm the results of investigations carried out in Mysore are being conducted at the Indian Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore. It is also proposed to carry out these trials at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar. The results so far obtained, however, are inconclusive.

(c) Certain experiments in substitute diet have been carried out by the all-India Women's Food Council. These experiments proved quite successful. In addition the All-India Women's Food Council:

(i) organised an exhibition of supplementary foods in New Delhi, where various nutritious diets and meals made of supplementary foods were exhibited;

(ii) have opened a Cafeteria of supplementary foods in New Delhi, where meals and snacks made of supplementary foods, without rationed cereals, are offered to the public at cheap rates; and

(iii) Women's Food Councils in various States have been formed to propagate the use of supplementary foods.

POSTAGE STAMPS

*1581. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any postage stamps other than those of the India Government are still in use in any part of the country; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof and the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) No, except in the State of Travancore-Cochin where the local postal system is being run by the State Government on behalf of the Government of India on an agency basis. The postcards, envelopes and postage stamps as were current in the Travancore-Cochin postal system before the financial integration are still in use. Articles of postal stationery are valid for local correspondence only i.e. correspondence which is posted in Travancore-Cochin area for delivery also in Travancore-Cochin area only. For correspondence out-side the State limits the stamps that are current in the rest of the country have to be used.

(b) As the Travancore-Cochin postal system is being run on an agency basis and the postage rates for the local area are different for some categories from those that obtain in the rest of India, tne use of the old postage stamps and postal stationery has been allowed as a temporary measure till stocks are exhausted. The particulars of such stamps and post-cards are given below:

(i) 'Anchal' postcards.	4 pies.
(ii) 'Anchal' envelopes.	1 anna
(iii) Service and ordinary stamps of the denominations of 1/6 anna, 1/3 anna, 1/2 anna, 1 anna, 2 annas, 3 annas and 6 annas.	postage

BARTER AGREEMENT WITH CHINA

*1582. **Shri Prajeshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Barter Agreement has been signed with China;

(b) whether it is a fact that China offered nearly one million tons of rice to India and that the present Agreement covers only 50,000 tons and if so, why; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian Jute goods are sold to China at black-market rates through Hong Kong?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Chine never offered one million tons of rice. As to the 2nd part the quantity of rice definitely offered by China was 50,000 tons only and the offer has been accepted.

(c) Government have no information.

FOOD PRODUCTION IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

*1583. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government have any statistics of food production in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

(b) If so, what is the total production of food during 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(c) What amount of food was sent to the Andaman Islands during 1949-50 and 1950-51 to date?

(d) What was the expenditure incurred, if any, for increasing the food production in the Andamans?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) The principal food crop of the Islands is rice, the production of which during 1949-50 and 1950-51 was 1438.9 and 2108.8 tons respectively.

(c) A total quantity of 1,947 tons of rice and wheat was supplied to Andamans during the financial year 1949-50. During the year 1950-51, 1,730 tons of rice and wheat have been supplied, which cover their requirements upto the end of March, 1951.

(d) Upto 1949-50 no financial assistance has been afforded to Andaman Islands for food production schemes. During 1950-51 an expenditure of Rs. 4,425 was sanctioned for the construction of one bamboo flat irrigation well, out of the food bonus earned by the State Government.

RURAL RATIONING IN MADRAS

*1584. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that rural rationing is proposed to be abolished in the State of Madras?

) If so, how far has this proposal a carried out and how has it affectn the supply of food grains in the l areas?

he Minister of Food and Agricul- (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). al rationing has been discontinued Madras State except in Malabar and giris Districts. The supply position eported to be generally satisfactory.

LICENCE FEE FOR WIRELESS SETS

585. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** Will Minister of **Communications** be sed to state:

a) whether it is a fact that the ice fee for wireless sets is collected the Postal Department;

) whether it is a fact that the ney so collected goes to the general asury;

c) whether any steps have been en to estimate the number of unnsed radio sets operating in the ntry and the consequent loss of reue to Government; and

d) if so, what is the estimated loss?

The Minister of Communications ri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir.

b) No. A part of it forms revenue the P. & T. Department and the t of the All India Radio.

(c) and (d). It is not possible to ve a census of unlicensed radio opeors in the country, but every effort made to discover unlicensed sets d steps are taken against persons eping such sets.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*1586. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minis- of **Transport** be pleased to state e number of buses plying between lhi and New Delhi under the Delhi ad Transport Authority since 1st bruary, 1951?

The Minister of State for Transport d Railways (Shri Santhanam): One ndred and forty seven buses, spread er 27 routes between Delhi and New lhi, are being run daily by the lhi Road Transport Authority since t February, 1951.

LOCOMOTIVES FROM U. K.

*1587. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the inister of **Railways** be pleased to ate:

(a) whether the Government of India ve placed an order recently for etre gauge locomotives in the United ingdom;

(b) if so, the number of the locomoves ordered;

(c) the total cost of the locomotives; and

(d) when is the delivery likely to be made?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Yes. 10 were ordered in June and 100 in November 1950 from the United Kingdom.

(c) Rs. 314 lakhs.

(d) November 1951 to September 1952 ex-Works.

RAILWAY INCOME FROM PASSENGER TRAFFIC

*1588. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the income from first class passenger traffic during each of the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950 (upto 31st December, 1950);

(b) the income from second class passenger traffic during the same years;

(c) the income from intermediate class passenger traffic during the same years; and

(d) the income from third class passenger traffic during the same years?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 20.]

ROAD LINK OF INDIAN VILLAGES

*1589. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have prepared a plan of connecting Indian villages by Roads?

(b) If so, has the plan gone under execution in any part of India?

(c) What cost does the entire plan involve?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A road plan, called the Nagpur Plan, was drawn up by a conference of Chief Engineers of States in 1943. This plan provides for balanced development of all classes of roads in India including village roads and has been largely accepted by the Central and State Governments.

(b) Under this plan the Centre accepted provisionally, with effect from the 1st of April 1947, financial responsibility for certain roads called National Highways and, in consideration of the relief afforded to them on

his account, the States agreed to attach particular importance to the improvement of district and village roads which are their responsibility under the Constitution.

(c) The cost of the entire plan at current rates is about Rs. 700 crores and the Centre has spent so far (including the anticipated expenditure of the current year) about Rs. 1600 lakhs on National Highways. The expenditure by the States is not fully known.

NATIONAL INLAND WATERWAYS

*1590. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what steps, if any, have so far been taken to specify and name the National Inland Waterways?

(b) If so, what are the details?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No action has so far been taken to declare any inland waterway as National Waterway.

(b) Does not arise.

RICE FROM SIAM

*1591. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has entered into an agreement with Siam for allocation of rice for 1951 and if so, for what quantity;

(b) what are the terms on which this agreement was entered into; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian gunny bags are to be exchanged for Siam rice?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes. for 300,000 tons.

(b) Purchases of Siam rice are on straight cash basis. Payment is made in sterling in London through our High Commissioner.

(c) No.

SALARIES OF HIGH COURT JUDGES

*1592. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the salaries of the High Court Judges in Part 'B' States have been finally fixed;

(b) if not, the number of Judges whose salaries have yet to be fixed; and

(c) what are the salaries they are receiving at present and what is the scale, if any?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). The matter is under the active consideration of Government and an Order will issue shortly.

(c) I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the salaries at present being received by High Court Judges in the various Part 'B' States. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 21].

CASH BALANCES OF MERGED STATES

*1593. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of the cash balances obtained by the Madhya Pradesh Government from the merged States in the State and the way in which it was spent;

(b) whether any records of articles, records and finances etc., obtained has been kept;

(c) the date from which the services of the employees of the merged States in the Madhya Pradesh have been recognised as also the date which is recognised for their retrenchment; and

(d) whether the newly appointed recruits in the merged States have superseded the old employees?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given by my predecessor to starred question No. 876 by Shri Ramprasad Potai on 19th March 1948 and to starred question No. 250 by Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi on the 9th February 1949 and to the statements laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). These are matters which are primarily the concern of the State Government, but I am having enquiries made and the information received will be laid on the Table of the House.

ALL INDIA WOMEN'S FOOD COUNCIL

*1594. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the extent of savings in the ration requirements as a result of the activities of the All India Women's Food Council in the Centre as well as in States in the matter of supplementary food?

(b) What is the future programme of work of this Council?

(c) What is the expenditure so far involved in the activities of the Council?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The necessary information is not readily available.

(b) Briefly the programme of work of these Councils will be to popularise the use of supplementary foods in all possible ways, e.g. open canteens for supply of supplementary foods, organise exhibitions, popularise recipes for preparation of supplementary foods and arrange publicity.

(c) The expenditure for the year 1951 is estimated at Rs. 50,000.

Khandsari SUGAR

*1595. **Shri Satish Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether cost of production was taken into account in fixing the ceiling price for *Khandsari* sugar?

(b) Was any representation received in this respect from the Uttar Pradesh Gur and Khandsari Manufacturers' Association, Bareilly?

(c) Have Government been successful in enforcing the ceiling price?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Only partially.

EXPORT OF GRAM FROM U. P.

*1596. **Shri Satish Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity of gram exported from Uttar Pradesh after the ban on its movement was lifted?

(b) What are the ceiling and market prices of gram in Kanpur, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The net export up to the end of November 1950 amounted to 44,663 tons. Figures for later months are not yet available.

(b) The ceiling and the current market prices have been reported as follows:

(Rate per maund)

	Ceiling price.	Market price.	
Kanpur.	Rs. 13/-	Rs. 18/13/2	on 3-2-1951
Bombay.	Rs. 16/-	Rs. 16/-	on 3-2-1951
Calcutta.	Rs. 16/-	Rs. 23/-	on 28-12-50
Madras.	Rs. 16/-	Rs. 22/1/-	on 26-1-1951

ROAD LINK BETWEEN BHADRAK AND CUTTACK

*1597. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) when Government propose to link up road between Bhadrak and Cuttack in Orissa; and

(b) whether Government are proposing to link up Ananopur and Keogar in Orissa by building a small bridge over river Vaitarini?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) As and when funds permit.

(b) The places referred to are probably Anandpur and Keonjhargarh. In that case, the work in question is a responsibility of the Government of Orissa.

N.W.R. EMPLOYEES' CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY LTD., LAHORE

*1598. **Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a N.W.R. Employees' Co-operative Credit Society Limited at Lahore:

(b) whether any amount was deducted from the salary of the staff towards the fund of the said Society; and

(c) if so, what has happened to the accumulated fund of the Society after partition?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Instructions were issued to Railway Administrations and Railway Offices in India in November 1947 that recoveries should continue to be made from the India opting staff of the Ex-N. W. Railway on account of the amount due in repayment of loans taken by them from the N. W. Railway Employees' Cooperative Credit Society, Lahore, and credited to the Deputy Chief Accounts Officer, E. P. Railway, to be kept in deposit until the shareholders of the Society in India were paid off.

(c) The accumulated fund of the Society on the date of the partition has remained with that Society after partition, but recoveries effected from the staff as mentioned in the reply to part (b) above have been kept in deposit with the E. P. Railway.

IMPORT OF FOOD GRAINS

101. Babu Gopinath Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries which have been approached during the last three months by the Government of India for the import of food grains to

meet the present shortage of food stuffs in India;

(b) the names of countries which have agreed to the request of India for allowing exports from their countries to India, stating the kind and quantity of the grain allowed to be exported also;

(c) the names of the countries which did not agree to the Indian Government's request;

(d) the kind and quantity of grains which the Government of India were able to import from other countries during the last three months; and

(e) the kind and quantity of grains which the Government of India propose to import during the next six months?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Australia, Argentine, U.S.A., Canada, Uruguay, Thailand, Burma, Egypt, China and Iraq.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House, showing purchases so far made or authorised to be made from foreign countries for import during 1951. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 22].

(c) No country has so far refused to supply foodgrains to India.

(d) During November, December, 1950 and January 1951 the arrivals were:

Wheat and flour	351,000 tons
Rice	145,000 tons
Other grains	190,000 tons

(e) During six months February to July, 1951 expected arrivals are:

Wheat and flour	1208,000 tons
Rice	438,000 tons
Milo	332,000 tons

SUPPLY OF SUGAR TO SAURASHTRA

102. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity of sugar supplied to Saurashtra Government during the year 1950?

(b) Has any representation been made to Government regarding the mal-administration of sugar rationing in Saurashtra?

(c) Is it a fact that some of the quantity of sugar from the quota given to Saurashtra Government was exported to Pakistan.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 27,434 tons.

(b) No.

(c) No, not to Government's knowledge.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 21st February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HISTORY OF INDIA

*1599. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the work of preparation of a comprehensive History of India from the ancient times to the present day has progressed; and

(b) when it is likely to be completed?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے) غالباً آنریبل میمبر کا مطلب اس کتاب سے ہے جس کی تیاری کا کام انڈین ہسٹری کانگریس نے اپنے اوپر لیا ہے - امید کی جاتی ہے کہ اس برس کے اندر اس کے ۴ ٹکڑے پریس میں چلے جائینگے - پوری ہسٹری بارہ ٹکڑوں میں بانٹی گئی ہے -

(بی) ایڈیٹوریل بورڈ نے پورے کام کے لئے تین برس کی مدت ٹھہرائی تھی - لیکن ٹھیک طور پر نہیں کہا جا سکتا کہ یہ کام کتنی مدت کے اندر پورا ہوگا -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Probably the hon. Member has in mind the history of India, preparation of which has been undertaken by the Indian History Congress. It is expected that four of the proposed twelve Volumes will be sent to the press during the current year.

(b) It is difficult to lay down any date for the completion of the work. The Editorial Board have, however, fixed a limit of three years.]

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Can the English version be read, Sir, because it is an important question and we did not follow the reply?

Mr. Speaker: I have resisted such requests till now. It is now more than two years that we are carrying on like this and in view of the Constitution having come into force now, it is better that such requests are not repeated.

श्री राज कंवर : क्या मैं माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री जी से यह दरयाफ्त कर सकता हूं कि इस इतिहास के तैयार करने वाले बोर्ड आफ एडिटर्स में कौन कौन साहब हैं और वह कब से इस काम पर लगे हुए हैं ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: May I know from the hon. Minister of Education the names of the gentlemen who are on the Editorial Board charged with the work of the preparation of this history and the date from which they have taken up this work.]

مولانا آزاد : بورڈ کے میمبروں کے نام میں ابھی نہیں بتا سکتا - لیکن یہ کام انہوں نے ۱۹۴۷ع میں شروع کیا تھا -

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give the names of the members of the Board at this time. But they had begun this work in 1947.]

श्री राज कंवर : क्या इन एडिटरान में से कोई होल टायम एम्प्लाई भी है ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: Are any of the editors whole-time employees as well?]

مولانا آزاد : میں اس کا جواب نہیں دے سکتا ۔

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give this information.]

श्री राज कंवर : इस इतिहास को कितनी जिल्दों में तैयार करने की तजवीज है और उस पर विलआखिर कितना रुपया खर्च होगा ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: In how many volumes is it proposed to compile this history, and what amount will be spent on it in the long run?]

مولانا آزاد : میں ابھی بتلا چکا ہوں کہ بارہ جلدوں میں وہ تیار کرنا چاہتے ہیں جن میں سے چار جلدیں پریس میں جانے والی ہیں۔ خرچ کتنا آئیگا اس کے متعلق گورنمنٹ کچھ نہیں بتلا سکتی ۔ کام کا تعلق گورنمنٹ سے نہیں ہے ہسٹری کانگرس سے ہے

[Maulana Azad: I have just now stated that they want to publish it in twelve volumes, and out of these four are about to be sent to press. Government cannot tell the amount of expenditure that will be incurred on them. This work is concerned with the History Congress and not with the Government.]

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In what language is this history being written?

مولانا آزاد : انگلش

[Maulana Azad: English.]

श्री सिधवा : मैं जनाब वजीर साहब से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या नीदरलैंड्स गवर्नमेंट ने हिन्दुस्तान के इतिहास के बारे में कुछ डाकुमेंट्स भेजे हैं। अगर भेजे हैं तो वह कौन सी सदी के हैं यह मेहरबानी करके बतायें ?

[Shri Sidhva: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Netherland's Government have sent some documents regarding the history of India. If so, then to what century do these documents belong?]

مولانا آزاد : جہاں تک میں سمجھتا ہوں ڈائریکٹ گورنمنٹ کو نہیں بھیجے ہیں - اگر انڈین ہسٹری کانگریس کو بھیجے ہونگے تو وہاں سے معلوم کیا جا سکتا ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: So far as I understand nothing has been sent to this Government directly. This information can be had from the Indian History Congress, if any such documents have been sent to them.]

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : क्या इस पुस्तक को हिन्दी में लिखने का कोई विचार है ?

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it proposed to publish this book in Hindi as well?]

مولانا آزاد : کانگریس نے فیصلہ یہ کیا ہے کہ کتاب پہلے انگریزی میں تیار کی جائے پھر ملک کی دوسری زبانوں میں اس کا ترانسلیشن کرنا آسان ہوگا۔

[Maulana Azad: The Congress has decided to prepare this book in English first and then afterwards it would be easy to translate it in the other languages of the country.]

RICKSHAWS

*1600. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities and towns in Part C States in the country in which rickshaws pulled by human beings are being plied for hire or otherwise;

(b) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps to put a stop to this practice; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). Except in Delhi there are no hand-pulled rickshaws in any Part 'C' State. In Delhi State, such rickshaws are plied only in Old Delhi where their number was 500 in April, 1947. The Delhi Municipal Committee are taking steps to eliminate the entire number of hand-pulled rickshaws by the end of 1951-52, by gradually reducing their number, and have issued 105 licenses only during the current year.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is this practice in vogue in any hill station in any Part A or Part B State and if so what steps have Government taken to put down this evil practice which detracts from the dignity of human endeavour?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As far as I know, rickshaws are plied in Simla, that is, in the Punjab. I do not know whether they are plied in any of the other hill stations. But I have got information as to where they are plied and what steps Government have taken to eliminate this practice and if the hon. Member likes I could furnish him full information.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Are arrangements being made to give employment to these people when this practice is abolished?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is difficult for Government always to guarantee employment, but speaking for Simla I may say that it is difficult today to get men to pull rickshaws. Rickshaws have themselves gone down greatly in number.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that so far as Delhi is concerned, several refugees who could not otherwise be rehabilitated by Government have taken to rickshaw pulling?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not say how many, but when they applied they were given preference in the matter of grant of licences.

TITLES

*1601. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to place on the Table of the House, copies of the orders passed and the circulars issued to the various State Governments regarding the non-recognition of titles and other distinctions conferred by the former Government upon various people comprising both officials and non-officials in the country?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): I lay on the Table of the House a copy of the instructions issued on the subject. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 23.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that the orders passed by Government regarding non-recognition of titles granted by the former Government do not apply to Rulers of former Indian States and if so, why has this distinction been maintained?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is true that an exception was made in favour of these Rulers as to the use in official documents of their titles because it had been agreed that a limited number of titles belonging to the Order of the Star of India earned by them should be continued. Apart from this, they were as a class proud of the titles which they had obtained in the past and it was thought that nothing would be lost by recognising this sentiment of theirs. It is always good to deal softly in these matters.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that the recipients of many of these titles granted by the former Government, particularly to officials, got them for outstanding services rendered in the administrative, municipal and social spheres and for other public activities?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we can go into those details.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that the British Government as successors to the Moghul Government recognised the titles granted not only by the Moghul Emperors but also the titles granted by the Hindu and Muslim Rulers of the Indian States?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes.

Shri Kamath: What are the academic distinctions that Government propose to recognise or bestow, as distinct from titles?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The distinction between academic distinctions and titles is recognised but there are certain academic distinctions like Mahamahopadhyaya, Shams-ul-ulema, Fazil-ul-ulema and Shafa-ul-ulema which had no political significance and which it was thought might be retained. But these were mostly 'titles' within the meaning of Article 18 and not just academic distinctions. Therefore, they were stopped. But other academical distinctions are maintained.

Shri Kamath: Have Government recognised Pandits and Shiromanis.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

IMPERIAL BANK

*1602. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) what were the powers that were vested in the Government of India as regards the Imperial Bank according to the Act of 1920 and which lapsed after 1934;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee has recommended the resumption of those powers by the Government; and

(c) if so whether Government have come to any decision on the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The powers which vested in the Government of India under the Imperial Bank of India Act, 1920, and which were allowed to lapse under the Amendment Act of 1934 were as follows:

(1) So long as the Bank did Government business under agreement with the Secretary of State, Government had the power to—

(i) issue instructions to the Bank in respect of any matter which, in their opinion, vitally affected the financial policy of Government or the safety of the Government balances;

(ii) ask, through the Government representative on the Board, for the postponement of any action, step or proceeding proposed to be taken by the Bank which would be detrimental to Government's financial policy; and

(iii) call for any information touching the affairs of the Bank and the production of any document of the Bank and require the publication of a statement of its assets and liabilities.

(2) Power to accord prior sanction to the proposals of the Bank to establish Local Head Offices and Local Boards at places other than Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

(3) Power of appointment of two Managing Governors after consideration of the recommendations of the Central Board of the Bank and to determine their period of office.

(4) Power to nominate up to four persons on the Central Board. This number was reduced to two under the Amendment Act.

(5) Power to give general or special instructions in regard to the discounting and buying of bills of exchange payable outside India.

(6) Power to accord sanction to proposals emanating from the shareholders of the Bank for increase in share capital.

(b) The Committee has recommended resumption of the following powers *viz.*,

(i) Appointment of Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director with the approval of the Central Government or in the alternative the apapointment of a Chairman with the approval of the Central Government;

(ii) Power for the Government official representative on the Board to ask for a postponement of decisions on questions having a bearing on the national policy of Government and for the review of those already taken on such questions; and

(iii) Government nominated Directors to have seats on the Committee of the Central Board and to be entitled to participate and vote.

(c) The matter is still under consideration.

Shri A. C. Guha: When does Government expect to come to a decision?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It should not take very long now. The recommendations of the Reserve Bank have been received and after we are free of the immediate occupations of this session, it would be possible for us to devote attention to this matter.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what are the recommendations of the Reserve Bank?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I had not yet time to study that.

Shri Munavalli: Has the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee recommended that the Imperial Bank of India should be developed into a national institution? If so, what steps do Government intend to take in that direction?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I cannot do any better, Sir, than to refer to the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. I think copies of that report have been circulated to hon. Members, or at least they are available in the Library. They were circulated to members of the Select Committee on the Reserve Bank Amendment Bill.

Shri A. C. Guha: Do Government propose to place the recommendations of the Reserve Bank on the Table of the House?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Not till they have been examined, Sir. Then we will consider whether it is worthwhile placing them on the Table of the House.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister if he would like to associate any hon. Members of this House who were members of the Select Committee with that consultative committee of the Reserve Bank of India which will consider the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I should be glad to associate Members who have taken an interest in this matter.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know in what manner, apart from nominating some members on the Board of Directors, control of the Government of India is exercised on the Imperial Bank at present?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: At present the control exercised by Government is through the Reserve Bank, in common with control over other commercial banks. But in view of the importance of the Imperial Bank, the amenability of the Imperial Bank to the general advice of the Reserve Bank is very much more marked.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Will the non-official Committee which the Reserve Bank is convening, consider this question of reorganisation of the Imperial Bank also?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not a committee. This question has already been considered by the Central Board of the Reserve Bank and when I say that Government have received the recommendations, I refer to the recommendations of the Central Board of the Reserve Bank. There is no special committee constituted by the Reserve Bank.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: The Reserve Bank is now constituting a committee to consider the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. Will that committee also consider the question relating to the reorganisation of the Imperial Bank?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think the hon. Member is referring to what I said yesterday.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I referred to a committee or conference convened by the Reserve Bank for considering the question of agricultural credit. That Conference has already met and I believe its recommendations are being formulated and forwarded to us. So, the obvious answer is that that committee will not be concerned with the future of the Imperial Bank.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister stated in reply to a supplementary that the Reserve Bank exercises the same control over the Imperial Bank as on other commercial banks. Are we to understand that the Imperial Bank stands on the same footing as the commercial banks or has some peculiarities of its own?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It has some special peculiarities which are part of the Act governing its operations. But they do not make any great difference to the general supervision of the Reserve Bank.

BHAKRA DAM

*1603. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations have been conducted with some French Companies for their participation in the construction of Bhakra Dam; and

(b) if so, whether they have been finalized?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes; the Punjab Government did carry on such negotiations.

(b) It has now been decided that the construction of Bhakra Dam and appurtenant works should be done departmentally.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, why it was found necessary to seek the services of foreign companies for this purpose?

Shri Sri Prakasa: So far as I have been able to find out, when the Conference on the Bhakra Dam took place in the earlier years, the Government of Punjab felt that it was too large an undertaking for their own engineers. So, they proposed at this Conference where my hon. friend the Minister for Works, Mines and Power—as his Ministry was then called—presided, that it might be helpful if foreign engineers and contractors were invited. That is how negotiations were carried on with two French and one American company.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is my hon. friend aware of the very high tribute paid to Indian engineering achievements and skill by some of the foreign experts who recently attended the International Power Conference at Delhi?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I am so aware; and that is why at their meeting held on the 12th of February they decided finally that the work should be done departmentally.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Was any expenditure incurred in these negotiations?

Shri Sri Prakasa: There must have been the usual expenditure on stamps.

Shri Barman: Are we to understand the hon. Minister's statement that the Bhakra Dam will be constructed departmentally, that no consultants from outside India will be engaged in the construction?

Shri Sri Prakasa: We are inviting Mr. Harvey Slocum of America to help us in this and to give us a master plan.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, how far the construction of the Bhakra Dam has progressed?

Shri Sri Prakasa: A visit to the Exhibition will help my hon. friend

to understand the exact position; and I should be sorry if the tea I gave the other day has been wasted!

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how far it has progressed according to the time schedule settled before.

Shri Sri Prakasa: I am sorry I do not know the full details, but we are hoping that the progress will be rapid now.

NEWSREEL CAMERAMAN, PATNA

*1604. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the places in India where Newsreel Cameramen are stationed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to discontinue the post of Newsreel Cameraman at Patna?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Lucknow and Nagpur.

(b) The matter is under consideration in connection with economy proposals.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know why in the list of places where Newsreel Cameramen are stationed, Patna does not find a place?

Shri Diwakar: Because under the economy proposals we are just now reconsidering the places where we should place these Newsreel Cameramen.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether some important functions were served by the Newsreel Cameraman at Patna?

Shri Diwakar: There is no doubt as to that—when the Cameraman was there he was serving some important purpose. But even if at that particular place no Cameraman is stationed that area would be covered by some other Cameraman.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the policy of the Government in having Newsreel Cameramen?

Shri Diwakar: The policy is to cover as many big news events as possible.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the cost of establishment of such a post at Patna?

Shri Diwakar: For a single post?

Prof. S. N. Mishra: For this post at Patna. What was the cost of the establishment annually?

Shri Diwakar: I could not say for a single post.

PROPERTIES IN DEOLALI SOUTH

*1605. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state how many properties under his control are located in Deolali South?

(b) How many of these have been handed over to Bombay Government?

(c) What was the condition of these properties?

(d) Was any auction made or were they sold by private sale?

(e) Were these properties fit for human habitation?

(f) If so, why were they pulled down?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) 17.

(b) 13, out of which 7 whole projects and a part of the 8th have been vacated and handed back.

(c) Fair.

(d) Yes, 3 projects and a part of the 4th were sold by public auction.

(e) Yes, but at considerable recurring cost.

(f) Since they were not required and the land had to be cleared for a new project.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to part (e) of my question the hon. Minister stated 'Yes', that is to say they are fit for human habitation. May I know whether these properties were meant for refugee rehabilitation and if so why they were demolished?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The hon. Member has most probably not followed my reply. These properties were not meant for refugee settlement, but they were given to the Bombay Government to tide over the difficulties temporarily. Now these properties have been handed back to us and therefore they are no longer required for the refugees.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Refugee Association there, comprising of the refugees who were residing in Deolali and Nasik, made a representation to Government to allow them to utilise these barracks which were fit for habitation; if so, what steps Government have taken; and whether while transferring them to the Bombay Government they made this condition that they should be available for refugee rehabilitation?

Mr. Speaker: He may put one question at a time.

Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, I will reply to both the questions. I do not know whether any representations have been received from the Refugees' Association. We deal with the Bombay Government, and as soon as the Bombay Government say that these buildings are not required for refugees any longer they are handed back to us. These buildings have been handed back to us by the Bombay Government. Obviously, they are no longer required for the refugees.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, whether a circular was issued to all the hon. Members by your Secretariat enclosing a copy of Defence Ministry's letter giving the whole history of these Deolali properties, in which the representation of the President of the Nasik District Displaced Persons Conference, South Deolali has been enclosed, whereas the hon. Minister has just now stated that no representation was made? May I know what is the position?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I said that I am not quite sure about the representation. But what I did want to make clear was this that we deal with the Bombay Government as far as this matter is concerned.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Is it not a fact that at present there are as many as 25,000 refugees in South Deolali camp in the quarters that were built by the Defence Ministry?

Sardar Baldev Singh: That may be true. I do not deny. There may be twenty or twenty-five thousand—I am not quite certain. But there are certain refugees in that camp still living there.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Have they not asked the Defence Minister, and through him the Members, that they ought to be allowed to continue to live in those camps, and is it not a fact that the hon. Minister said that they are required for Defence purposes?

Sardar Baldev Singh: As I stated in my reply to this question, this camp is not surplus to our requirements. But in order to help the Bombay Government to settle the refugees we temporarily gave this camp to them. Now the position is that as soon as the Bombay Government tell us that this camp is not required or a part of it is not required for the refugees they hand it back to us.

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I think nothing useful can be added now. The matter rests entirely with the Bombay Government as the Defence Minister has stated.

Shri Sidhva: There are seventeen properties. Is it not correct that numbers 1, 2 and 10 are with the Defence Ministry? I want to know why they were pulled down and why they were not given for refugee rehabilitation.

Sardar Baldev Singh: The projects under items 1 and 2 have been disposed of by public auction.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know why they were disposed of.

Sardar Baldev Singh: Because they were not required and they were handed back to us.

Mr. Speaker: They were under the control of the Government of India.

Sardar Baldev Singh: This one is a temporary camp and as soon as it came back to us we demolished it in order to put up a new permanent structure.

EXPENDITURE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

*1606. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the revised recurring expenditure in 1950-51 for the Scientific and Industrial Research Institutes and National Laboratories managed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) the amount spent up till now for construction and equipment of each of such laboratories and Research Institutes; and

(c) the important researches made therein in the year 1950?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Rs. 48·85 lakhs.

(b) A statement giving the desired information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 24.]

(c) A statement giving the more important research problems undertaken in these laboratories is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 25.]

Shri Barman: Is there any system obtaining in the Government Departments to register any of the important research results as patents?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not say that.

Shri Barman: What is the system that obtains in the Government in publicising those important research results which will do a lot of good to the general public, such as the research

results of the Food Technological Institute, Mysore?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is constantly publishing literature on the results of investigations.

Shri Barman: Is the hon. Minister in a position to state which important research results of the Food Technological Institute have been widely circulated to the public?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I fear I shall require notice of the question.

Shri Kamath: Has Government worked out any plan as to how many trained scientists and research workers will be needed to efficiently man these various Institutes and Laboratories?

Shri Sri Prakasa: These plans are being made as our work progresses and new laboratories are being established.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that the Food Laboratories have evolved a kind of synthetic rice which is supposed to be very much cheaper than the present price of rice?

Mr. Speaker: I think this matter was dealt with already.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the approximate amount spent so far in requisitioning the services of foreign experts for these Research Institutes?

Shri Sri Prakasa: This scarcely arises out of this question, and in any case I have not got that information in my hand.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister has stated the amount so far spent. Has there been any contribution by the industrialists to the fund? If so, does that amount include their contribution or it is besides the contribution?

Shri Sri Prakasa: A sum of Rs. 46,70,000 has been contributed by Industry and other private donors.

Shri Poonacha: May I know what is the amount spent for building construction and the amount spent for equipment?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Accounts of expenditure under the two heads have not been separately kept, so far as I know.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister has not stated whether the figure previously given by him includes the amount contributed by the industrialists or exclusive of that. What amount was actually received from the industrialists?

Shri Sri Prakasa: As regards expenditure, the funds are pooled together and the expenditure is incurred from the common till.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what are the principal industrial fields in which these research laboratories are doing work in collaboration with the industries themselves?

Shri Sri Prakasa: If the hon. Member will see the papers that I have laid on the Table of the House, he will find the names of the various laboratories that have been established. If the hon. Member wants to know whether the industrialists are actively co-operating in this work, I can only say that their co-operation is in the matter of the contributions that they have made.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

COMMUNIST PARTY

*1607. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in the activities of the Communist Party of India since his reply to the Short Notice Question asked by Shri B. L. Sondhi on the 11th August, 1950; and

(b) whether the situation in the badly affected areas has improved as a result of the policy pursued by the Government?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Judging from the recent statements of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India, the activities of the Party continue to be governed by the same tactical principles laid down previously by the Committee, of which extracts were read to the House by my predecessor on the 11th August, 1950. Since then, there has been a gratifying degree of co-operation on the part of the villagers in putting down the menace, and the situation has definitely improved in my opinion.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know in what particular direction that improvement is perceptible, whether the activities that the communists were carrying on in the rural areas, the sabotage and other activities have improved?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Their activities have not been as successful as before on account of the fact that the villagers too now oppose such activities. It is in that sense, I think, there has been an improvement and not an improvement in the tactics of the Communist Party.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know, Sir, what steps have the Government taken other than the punitive measures such as the application of the Preventive Detention Act for the improvement of the situation further? What I mean is that the hon. Minister stated the other day that there are certain reasons why the young men of our country are attracted to Communism . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is entering into an argument. What information does he want?

Shri B. K. Das: I want to know that in view of the fact that the Government is aware that the young men are easily led into the trap of the Communists, what steps are the Government taking to meet them from the ideological point of view?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not think it need be answered.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the people in the areas in which the Communists are active, assist and cooperate with the Communists in the case of loot and arson?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is a question of balance of fear that the villagers have. When the fear is very great, they are compelled to act in one direction. When the fear is reduced by Government strength they are very willing to co-operate with the Government as against the Communists.

Mr. Speaker: These questions add nothing to the information. They certainly carry on an argument. Order, order. We will proceed to the next Question No. 1609.

Hon. Members: What about Question No. 1608?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not present. He has given authority to somebody.

Shri Sohan Lal: I am authorized to put the Question.

Mr. Speaker: That will come at the end, after the whole list is exhausted.

RE-SHUFFLING OF PORTFOLIOS

*1609. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the estimated amount which will be saved by the recent reshuffling of the portfolios of different Ministers?

(b) Are any further re-adjustments contemplated?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Roughly Rs. 7½ lakhs per annum.

(b) I am unable to answer the question at present.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether this saving as indicated by the hon. Minister is on account of the reshuffling already done?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question was the estimated amount which will be saved by the recent reshuffling of the portfolios of different ministers and the answer to that question is "Roughly Rs. 7½ lakhs per annum." I do not understand the present question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether any more reshuffling is to be done?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have said, Sir, I am unable to answer the question at present.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister how many of the senior officers will be retrenched?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As a result of the recent reshuffling 3 Secretaries, 1 Deputy Secretary, 2 Under Secretaries, 12 other Gazetted Officers, 105 Assistants and 57 clerks go out by the result and that gives us Rs. 7,86,720 per annum.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Those who go away from one Ministry, are they being absorbed in any other Ministry?

Shri Rajagopalachari: On questions of economy hon. Members take up a strong attitude and as soon as the economy is achieved, then re-absorption comes up. I think, we should keep them apart. I have constantly referred to the provisions made for retrenched people and I do not think I need repeat them.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know to what extent these savings will be wiped out as a result of appointments of Deputy Ministers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the savings so made will not be adversely affected by the addition of new Ministries?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is the same question. The hon. Minister need not reply to that. It is an argument.

Sardar Sochet Singh: May I know whether the break in the service of these retrenched employees, *i.e.*, between the period they go out and the period they will be re-absorbed, will be condoned in the event of their being taken back?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As I have already stated, difficulties certainly arise when we enforce economy. We cannot have it both ways.

Sardar Sochet Singh *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member assumes that they would be re-employed. Then only the question of break of service will arise.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that many superannuated men are still in office and if so, is it the intention of the Government to absorb some of these retrenched young men in their places?

Mr. Speaker: I think we are entering into an argument and making suggestions. The hon. Minister has already stated that the House cannot have it both ways.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I be allowed to put in a word of explanation. When I put that question to the hon. Minister, my objection was not that they ought to be re-absorbed. I was not anxious that they ought to be re-absorbed. But if they are sent away from one Department and taken in another, in the overall picture, there is no economy. I wanted to avoid that.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

*1613. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether any special grants are given to the Aligarh Muslim University for the maintenance of its Engineering College?

(b) What is the number of engineers who have passed from this college?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے) کا جواب ہاں ہے -

(بی) سنہ ۱۹۴۹ء میں ۴۹ ویدارتھیوں نے انجینرنگ ڈگری ایگزامینیشن پاس کیا اور ۱۹۵۰ میں ۷۴ نے -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) 49 students passed the Engineering Degree Examination in 1949 and 74 students in 1950 from the College of Engineering and Technology of the Aligarh Muslim University.]

श्री टी० ऐन० सिंह: क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि जिन लोगों ने डिगरी एग्जामिनेशन पास किया है वह नौकरी में ले लिये गये हैं ? और अगर नहीं लिये गये तो वह कहां हैं हिन्दुस्तान में या बाहर ?

[Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the persons who have passed their Degree Examinations have been employed. If not, then where they are, in India or abroad?]

مولانا آزاد : اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ کچھ نہیں کہہ سکتی -

[Maulana Azad: The Government cannot say anything in this respect.]

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know what has been the amount of Special Grants to the Aligarh University?

مولانا آزاد : اس سال کالج بلڈنگ کے لئے دو لاکھ اسی ہزار روپیہ دیا گیا اور ضروری سامان کے لئے ایک لاکھ چار ہزار روپیہ - ریکرینگ خرچ کے لئے باون ہزار روپیہ -

[Maulana Azad: This year a sum of rupees two lakhs and eighty thousand has been granted to them for the college building, one lakh and four thousand for the necessary equipment and rupees fifty-two thousand towards recurring expenditure.]

श्री टी० ऐन० सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह बात सच है कि यहां के ग्रेजुएट्स को नोकरी न मिलने की वजह से वह ज्यादा तादाद में पाकिस्तान ....

[Shri T. N. Singh: I would like to know whether it is a fact that a number of the graduates, for lack of employment, have migrated to Pakistan .....]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; the hon. Member is not asking for information.

श्री देशबन्धू गुप्त : क्या मैं यह दर्याफ्त कर सकता हूं कि अलीगढ़ से पास शुदा तुलबा का मयार उतना ही ऊंचा है जितना दूसरी युनिवर्सिटीज में है ।

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the standard of education of the students who pass from Aligarh, is as high as that of other universities?]

مولانا آزاد : گورنمنٹ ایسا ہی خیال کرتی ہے -

[Maulana Azad: The Government thinks so.]

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

*1615. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of Shri Deshmukh Economy plan and consequently the abolition of the Film Section, there shall be any effect on the production of the documentary films of India; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) It has been decided to retain the Films Division.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know how many documentary films in all have been prepared since 1947? What is the cost of their production with establishment charges?

Shri Diwakar: I do not think I have a list according to years. Last year, about 52 were to be had by us. Out of that number, some were to be bought from the open market. Thirty six have been prepared, if I am correct.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the cost of their production?

Shri Diwakar: I have not got the figures.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether any attempts were made by the Central Government and the State Governments to demonstrate these films in the rural areas?

Shri Diwakar: Certainly. The publicity vans number about 250 in the States. They use these films in the 16 mm.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any retrenchment is sought to be done in this Films section?

Shri Diwakar: Certainly.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: To what extent?

Shri Diwakar: I cannot give the exact figures.

Shri Kesava Rao: What are the languages in which these documentary films are made?

Shri Diwakar: Just now we are using five languages: English, Hindi, Bengali, Tamil and Telugu.

Shrimati Durgabai: What are the special considerations which weighed with the Government to retain the Films Division as against the recommendations of the Deshmukh Economy Report?

Shri Diwakar: They were proposals. The proposals were re-examined and it was found that this Films Division should be retained.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या हर एक फिल्म हर भाषा में बनती है या कुछ फिल्म किसी भाषा में और कुछ किसी भाषा में ?

[Seth Govind Das: Is every film produced in every language or is it that some films are produced in one language and some in the other?]

श्री दिवाकर : आम तौर पर पांचो भाषाओं में फिल्में बनती हैं ।

[Shri Diwakar: Generally every film is produced in all the five languages.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : हर एक फिल्म ।

[Seth Govind Das: Every film?]

श्री दिवाकर : आम तौर पर ।

[Shri Diwakar: Generally so.]

Shri Jnani Ram: Are the State Governments given these films free of cost for display in the rural areas?

Shri Diwakar: These are given free and shown free of charge.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it proposed to re-employ the retrenched persons?

Shri Diwakar: Yes, if any necessity arises.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

CLOSING DOWN OF A.I.R. STATIONS

*1616. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state if any A.I.R. station will be closed down as a result of the Economy drive?

(b) If so, will the staff and other employees of these stations be absorbed elsewhere?

(c) Will these stations be closed down permanently or only temporarily for so long as financial stringency continues in the country?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the number of officers as compared to the subordinate staff personnel who are being retrenched as a result of this?

Shri Diwakar: I have not got the figures.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

*1617. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the Balance of Payments of India with the rest of the world in the second half of the year 1950; and

(b) if it is a surplus, the reason for the same?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The estimated balance of payment surplus on current account with the rest of the world for the second half of 1950, is of the order of Rs. 32 crores.

(b) The surplus is attributed to increased exports, due to a larger foreign demand for exports and a lower level of imports, due to unattractive prices and short supply of imported goods.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know to what extent there has been an increase in the surplus with hard currency areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry, Sir, I have not got separate figures broken down by hard currency and soft currency areas for the entire period.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the surplus has been achieved more through curtailment of imports or through increase in exports?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think both factors have been at work.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the dominating factor?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Again, I have not got figures for both quarters. The returns are available only for the quarter ending September; for the second quarter, I have only an estimate. Therefore, I am not in a position to state now which of the factors has been relatively more important.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if this balance of payment includes what are called invisible exports and imports namely payments accruing on account of services, shipping, etc.?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. Balance of payment is shown against the following heads: Exports FOB and Imports CIF and that gives you the trade balance. Then, there are the net invisibles which are the things mentioned by the hon. Member, and therefore, we get the balance on current account. Then, there is an item, errors and omissions which serves as a balancing item. The whole of that gives you the result of the current account. Then, there is the capital account which gives figures for movement in sterling balances, movement in other balances and the figure of net investment.

Shri T. N. Singh: What is the amount of payment accruing against India in regard to services performed by the United Kingdom, namely for pensions, service and other things?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Again, I have not got detailed figures making up this item. Pension payments are of the order of about 5 million pounds.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is it a fact that the balance of payment on current account has been progressively decreasing during the latter part of the year 1950?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That again involves a comparison between different quarters.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In answer to a question, the hon. Minister stated that he did not have separate figures for hard currency and soft currency areas. Would he give us these figures at some future date, or lay them on the Table of the House?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: If a question is put, I shall be glad to give all the figures.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Separate figures for hard currency and soft currency areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes; whatever is asked for, will be given.

Shri Hussain Imam: Does this balance include Government payments also or does it include only private mercantile accounts?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: All payments are included.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know what is the item in the list of exports that has gone up most and what is the item in the list of exports that has received the greatest cut?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That again involves an examination of all the details making up these totals, which details I have not got here.

HINDU CODE BILL

*1619. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state whether Government propose to move for the detailed consideration of the Hindu Code Bill during the current session of Parliament?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): The clause by clause consideration of the Hindu Code Bill was taken up on the 5th, 6th and 7th February, 1951.

Shri Kamath: May I ask a question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Let me know what the question is.

Shri Kamath: Has Government taken note of the time taken for the discussion over a single clause of the Bill and decided not to have piecemeal discussion of the Bill?

Shri Gadgil: Government have taken note of what happened in the House along with hon. Members of the House. No decision has yet been taken.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I ask a question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I think we better go to the next question.

Shrimati Durgabai: One question, Sir. We would like to know...

Mr. Speaker: It is not a matter of getting any information. I go to the next question.

Shrimati Durgabai: Sir, one more question. I would like to know...

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be. We go to the next question.

INVESTMENTS IN POST OFFICE CASH CERTIFICATES AND DEFENCE SAVING CERTIFICATES

*1625. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts invested in the Post Office Cash Certificates and Defence Savings Certificates in the years 1949 and 1950?

(b) the amounts invested in National Savings Certificates during the year 1950?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) There were no investments in these years in Post Office Cash Certificates or Defence Savings Certificates as the issue of both had been discontinued, the former in June 1947 and the latter in October 1945.

(b) The sale of National Savings Certificates in 1950 amounted to Rs. 24.73 crores.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, has Government taken any steps for issuing National Savings Certificates in the rural areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to popularise the sale of these National Savings Certificates in the rural areas.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, what is the amount received in 1950 by the sale of these certificates in the rural areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No breakdown of these figures is yet available.

Shri Jnani Ram: What is the amount withdrawn from these National Savings Certificates during this year?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Does the hon. Member refer to the year 1950?

Shri Jnani Ram: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The discharges in 1950 come to Rs. 6.92 crores.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know how this sum of Rs. 24.73 crores is invested by the Government?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They are part of Government balances.

LITERACY CAMPAIGN

*1626. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Dr. Frank C. Laubach is visiting India shortly to launch mass literacy campaign?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : سوال کا جواب نہیں ہے -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** No. Sir.]

श्रीश्यामनन्दन सहाय : मैं एक बात को सीक करता हूं : इस सवाल का जवाब नहीं में है या इस सवाल का कोई जवाब ही नहीं है ?

[**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** I seek one clarification: whether its answer is in negative or it has no answer at all?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

مولانا آزاد : لاجواب ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** It is without reply.]

INCOME-TAX IN RAJASTHAN

*1627. **Shri Radhelal Vyas:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Rajasthan High Court has issued a

writ prohibiting the Government of India from realising Income Tax in Rajasthan prior to April, 1950?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

(c) In the light of the above-mentioned writ, will Government issue similar directions and instructions for other Part B States *viz.*, Madhya Bharat, Saurashtra, P.E.P.S.U. etc.?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The Rajasthan High Court has accepted the petition filed by a certain individual and issued a writ to the Union of India directing it not to levy income-tax on the income of that individual which accrued, or arose or was received in Rajasthan excluding the area of the former covenanting State of Bundi, prior to 1st April 1950.

(b) Government have taken steps for the purpose of filing an appeal against the decision of the High Court to the Supreme Court.

(c) In view of the action taken as stated in reply to part (b), Government do not propose to issue any directions and instructions in respect of other Part B States.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know by what time the appeal will be preferred?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The appeal has already been preferred.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: In the meantime, will Government continue to levy the income-tax?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think the income-tax officers may be trusted to exercise a certain amount of discretion in the matter.

Discovery of Ancient Sites in Bikaner

*1628. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether any discovery of ancient sites has been made in Bikaner Division?

(b) If so, what are they and to what age do they belong?

(c) Is the discovery work still proceeding or has it been completed?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے) بیکانیر ڈویژن میں جو دیکھ بھال ہال میں کی گئی ہے اس میں ۷۰ پرانی جگہیں سامنے آئی ہیں -

(بی) ان کا زمانہ ۳۰۰۰ برس بی - سی - سے لیکر ایک ہزار برس اے - ڈی - تک کا سمجھا گیا ہے -

(سی) نومبر ۱۹۵۰ سے دسمبر کے آخر تک دو مہینے دیکھ بھال کا کام جاری رہا تھا - اکتوبر میں اسے پھر ہاتھ لگایا جائیگا -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) About 70 ancient sites have been discovered in the recent exploration in Bikaner Division.

(b) The sites range in date from the 3rd millennium B.C. to the first millennium A.D.

(c) The exploration party worked for two months, November and December, 1950. It is proposed to resume the work next October.]

श्री सिधवा : यह खुदाई का काम जारी रक्खा जायेगा या बन्द किया जायेगा ?

[**Shri Sidhva:** Will the excavation work be continued or will it be stopped?]

مولانا آزاد : میں نے ابھی آپ سے کہا کہ اکتوبر میں یہ کام پھر جاری کیا جائے گا - بات یہ ہے کہ ہمارے پاس اسٹاف محدود ہے - بہت سا کام ان کو کرنا پڑتا ہے - آفس کا کام بھی کرنا پڑتا ہے - فیلڈ ورک بھی ہے - اس لئے ہم اس طریقہ سے کام تقسیم کرتے ہیں کہ ہر قسم کا کام اپنی اپنی جگہہ ہوتا رہے - نومبر اور دسمبر میں بیکانیر کی دیکھ بھال ہوئی تھی - اب اکتوبر میں پھر یہ کام شروع کیا جائیگا -

[**Maulana Azad:** I have just now told you that the work will be resumed in October again. The thing is that we have got a limited staff and they have to do a lot of work. They have to do office work along with the field work. Therefore we arrange in such a manner that every sort of work may continue. The exploration work in Bikaner was started in November and December, and now this work would again be resumed in October.]

श्री सिधवा : इस में जुआलजिस्ट से मदद आप को मिलती है ?

[**Shri Sidhva:** Do you get any assistance from the Geologists in this work?]

مولانا آزاد : ہاں جن کاموں میں ان کی مدد کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے ان سے مدد لی جاتی ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** Yes, their assistance is sought where it is required.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, may I know to which age and civilization do these ancient sites belong?

Mr. Speaker: It is more for the scholars to decide that.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, the archaeologists must have come to some decision as to the date or the nature of the civilisation to which these belong. Do they belong to the Indus Valley civilisation or not?

مولانا آزاد : جو سائیٹ وہاں نظر آئی ہیں ان میں ۱۵ جگہیں ایسی ہیں جو معلوم ہوتی ہیں کہ ہڑپا اور موہن جودارو کے وقت کی ہیں - کچھ جگہیں ایسی ہیں جہاں سے اس طرح کے مٹی کے برتن نکلے ہیں کہ خیال کیا جاتا ہے یہ پہلی صدی اے - ڈی - کے ہوں گے - پھر حال ابھی ان کی دیکھ بھال کا کام جاری ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** There are about fifteen such sites among the discovered ones which seem to belong to Mohonjadaro and Harappa period. There are some sites where such pottery has been found in respect of which it is thought that it belongs to the first century A.D. Anyway the exploration work is still in progress.]

कंवर जसवन्त सिंह : बीकानेर में यह जगह किस जगह निकली है ?

[**Kanwar Jaswant Singh:** What is the location of the place where these sites have been found in Bikaner?]

آزاد : بیکانیر میں ایک جگہ ایسی ہے جہاں دریا سوکھ گیا ہے وہیں یہ جگہیں نکلی ہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** There is a certain site in Bikaner where a river has dried up. This is the place where these sites have been found.]

श्री कामत : क्या देहली और नई देहली के नजदीक खुदाई का काम शुरू करने की तजवीज है ?

[**Shri Kamath:** Is it proposed to start excavation work somewhere near Delhi and New Delhi?]

مولانا آزاد : ابھی کوئی ایسی اسکیم گورنمنٹ کے سامنے نہیں آئی ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** No such scheme has come before the Government as yet.]

Broadcasting Station for Gwalior or Indore

*1629. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether there is any scheme of installing a broadcasting station in Gwalior or Indore?

(b) If so, what is the probable date by which it would be installed?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Scheduled Castes Scholarship Board

*1630. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the total amount spent on scholarships awarded by the Scheduled Castes Scholarship Board to candidates from Punjab during the year 1949-50?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : ۳۰۷۱۶ روپیہ -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** Rs. 30,716.]

प्रो० यशवन्त राय : कुल कितने विद्यार्थियों ने ऐप्लाई किया था ?

[**Prof. Yashwant Rai:** How many students did apply in all?]

مولانا آزاد : ۱۶۸ ودیارتھیوں کی درخواستیں آئی تھیں جن میں سے

۵۳ منظور کی گئیں اور ان کو اسکالرشپ دیا گیا -

[**Maulana Azad:** Applications were received from 168 students Out of them 53 were accepted and scholarships were granted to them.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: Sir, what is the total amount of the scholarships granted and what is the number of scholars who received them?

مولانا آزاد : میں نے ابھی کہا کہ ۵۳ -

[**Maulana Azad:** I have just now stated the number was 53.]

Mr. Speaker: The question-hour is over.

Shri Sidhva: No, Sir, there is one minute more.

Mr. Speaker: All right, next question, Mr. Kamath, 1631.

Shri Kamath: May I put question No. 1632?

Mr. Speaker: All right.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY, DELHI

*1632. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Housing Factory, Delhi, has stopped production for sale;

(b) whether test production is still being carried on; if so, why;

(c) why houses were advertised when the Mulgaonkar Committee was enquiring into the whole matter;

(d) the total expenditure, capital, working and the consulting firm's service charges, so far incurred;

(e) the number of houses built in England by the consulting firm following the same foam concrete process as has been adopted in the factory; and

(f) whether the consulting firm has refused to give a guarantee as regards the strength and life of the wall panels?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, with the object of overcoming the technical difficulties in the way of satisfactory production.

(c) Visitors were invited to the Factory and its Staff Colony in order to ascertain public reactions to the type of house then intended to be offered for sale.

(d) The following is the expenditure expected to be incurred up to the end of March, 1951.

Capital Expenditure.—Rs. 52·88 lakhs.

Working Expenditure.— Rs. 44·04 lakhs.

(The first figure includes charges paid to the consultants of £20,980 or Rs. 2,79,733).

(e) Attention is invited to my reply to Starred Question No. 499 dated the 12th December, 1949.

(f) The consultants have not given any guarantee regarding the panels.

Short Notice Question and Answer

DISTURBED AREA IN ASSAM

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area in Assam or Manipur has been declared "a disturbed area";

(b) if so, which area, and the grounds on which the notification has been made; and

(c) the measures that have been, or are being taken, to restore normalcy in that area?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). In Assam one mauza in the District of Kamrup and in Manipur about a dozen villages near Imphal have been declared to be in a disturbed or dangerous state.

The reason for the issue of the declaration by the Assam Government was that the local inhabitants, under the influence of subversive organisations like the Revolutionary Communist Party of India, have been indulging in illegal acts such as forcible seizure of paddy, burning down the dwellings of persons who decline to assist them in their unlawful activities, assault on Government servants, etc. In Manipur the people living in the areas notified by Government have been committing a series of crimes under the leadership of Communists; these activities include some murders of Government officials and members of the public who were assisting Government, forcible rescue of arrested persons and 25 armed dacoities during the year 1950 for the purpose of augmenting Party funds.

(c) The persons responsible for the commission of subversive crimes are being rounded up and unlicensed arms found in their possession are being confiscated. Where adequate grounds exist, the arrested persons are being detained under the Preventive Detention Act. Additional Police have been quartered in the areas declared to be disturbed. Counter-propaganda is being carried on by Government.

Shri Kamath: On what date did the Assam Government inform the Centre that the situation in that particular area was getting out of hand and on what date was the notification issued?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There was no question of the situation getting out of hand. The notification was issued by the Government of the State under section 15 of the Police Act of 1861 in order that collective fines may be imposed with due exemptions.

Shri Kamath: Was the Centre not consulted at all in this matter?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Not under that Act. It is the State Government that operates. The Centre is no doubt kept informed from time to time. According to the latest information we know the exact situation as it now stands. The Act empowers the local Government to issue the declaration. There is no Maintenance of Public Order Act there. It was done under the Police Act of 1861.

Shri Kamath: Have reports reached Government that infiltration, in greater or smaller measures, of subversive non-Indian elements has been taking place in Assam or in Manipur either from the North or from the South?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The present disturbed condition is not due to any infiltration of outsiders, but, as I said already, it is due to the activities of the various Communist Parties.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that in these areas which have been declared as disturbed there is considerable food scarcity?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That is a different matter. The food scarcity is fairly general. These are terrorist activities. It is not a rising of the villagers on account of hunger. The hon. Member will be satisfied, for instance, if I tell him about the details of the arms that have been captured there by the police operations—184 pistols, 1 Bren gun, 2 machine guns, 300 carbines, 228 sub-machine guns, 5 rifles, 240 launcher grenades, 145 pistol magazines, 4 sets of stand instruments. These do not arise out of hunger.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Are these Communists in this area receiving any assistance from Communists of Burma and China?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I do not think I shall be able to give any answer to that in the public interest but it is well known that the Communist organisation is more or less international.

Shri Munavalli: How many officers and other persons have been killed in these activities?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I can collect the figures, if they are very necessary. As I have already said, quite a number have been killed but the exact figures I would not be able to give straight off.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: I wanted to know the total number of casualties such as persons murdered, houses burnt and the total loss of property with a view to know what the situation was.

Shri Rajagopalachari: The difficulty is to give the total numbers. But I have already indicated from the arms seized the nature of the transaction. If hon. Members are interested to know the exact figures, a separate question may be put and I shall collect the figures as they stand on a particular date and supply them.

Shri Chaliha: What was the quantity of arms recovered from the district of Sibsagar in Assam, where the operations took place first?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have given the figures of arms recovered in one operation in Kamrup but if notice is given I shall try to get the figures.

Shri Jnani Ram: What was the total number of arrests made during the disturbance?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Between 15th and 17th February 60 Communists were arrested in Kamrup, seven in Nowgong and five in Golpara. On the 16th February the police recovered the arms I referred to.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta rose—

Mr. Speaker: This question has been answered for ten minutes.

Shri Kamath: One last question, Sir. Have reports reached the Minister or the Government that recently maps have been circulating in China showing the Brahmaputra river as the Indo-Chinese boundary and, if so, has the Government protested to the Government of China in this matter?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Action has been taken in regard to the map that has been referred to and satisfactory explanation has been received from the other side.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: How many officials were killed?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister said that he could not give the figure. Unfortunately while questions are being answered, many hon. Members are engaged in having consultations and conversations with the result that the same question is repeated over and over again.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, I want to know.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Displaced Harijans

***1608. Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the number of Harijan bastees (colonies) where Harijan displaced persons have made unauthorised occupation?

(b) Is it a fact that coercion and physical force were used to eject them from their unauthorised constructions?

(c) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to provide alternative accommodation to them?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Presumably the information required is about Harijan bastees (colonies) in Delhi. The number of such colonies is seventeen.

(b) and (c). Harijan families have been evicted only from one colony in New Delhi from unauthorised mud-huts constructed on Municipal lands where the Municipal Committee wanted to construct new quarters for their sweeper employees. Alternative accommodation at Shahdara was offered to the persons concerned, but they refused to accept it. Subsequently, some of the evictees were given accommodation in huts constructed by the Displaced Harijans Rehabilitation Board and some in huts belonging to the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

Slum Clearance

***1610. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) how many schemes of slum clearance are in hand in Delhi; and

(b) how much Government have spent on it in the last three years?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Five.

(b) Rs. 24·80 lakhs.

Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plants

***1611. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plants at Harduagunj has been wound up or is still functioning;

(b) the reasons why the Pool was established and the date of establishment; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred up till now for the Pool and the amount recovered so far?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plant at Harduaganj was wound up on the 31st December, 1949; but its accounts are in the course of finalisation.

(b) The Pool was established in May, 1942, primarily with a view to meeting the difficult supply position of electrical generating plant during the War. It had, however, to be continued even after the War to procure additional quantities of plant and equipment to meet the emergent demands from State Governments and others in connection with the 'Grow More Food Compaign'; Construction power for development schemes and river valley projects; etc.

(c) The total expenditure incurred and the amount recovered, including debits and credits likely to be adjusted in the accounts for the financial year 1950-51 are as follows:

Expenditure.—Rs. 215·42 lakhs.
Recoveries.—Rs. 215·87 lakhs.

Radio Engineers

***1612. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is scarcity of Radio Engineers and Broadcasting Technicians in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the scarcity; and

(c) the institutions in Part C States in India, where Radio Engineering is taught as a separate subject?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Yes.

(b) Various steps providing facilities for students in this subject have been taken by Government, details regarding which have been laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 26.].

(c) Nil.

Educational Adviser

***1618. Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Educational Adviser has been appointed in 1950; and

(b) whether this appointment was made without any reference to the Union Public Service Commission?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Revenues from Income-tax

***1620. Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the actual revenues realized from (i) Income Tax; (ii) Customs; and (iii) Excise during the first eight months for each of the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The actual revenues realized for the periods in question are:

(i) Income-tax.
1948-49.—Rs. 72,59 lakhs.
1949-50.—Rs. 74,97 lakhs.
1950-51.—Rs. 81,05 lakhs.

(ii) Customs.
1948-49.—Rs. 76,24 lakhs.
1949-50.—Rs. 91,98 lakhs.
1950-51.—Rs. 84,54 lakhs.

(iii) Excise.
1948-49.—Rs. 34,25 lakhs.
1949-50.—Rs. 44,82 lakhs.
1950-51.—Rs. 49,16 lakhs.

Civil List of Central Government

***1621. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether the complete Civil List of the Central Government has now been published?

(b) Will it be published regularly and if so, at what intervals?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) No.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the Messrs. Associated Advertisers and Printers Limited of Bombay for a half-yearly publication and it is hoped that the first issue will be out in April this year.

'Advanced' Castes

***1622. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the basis on which certain castes are styled as 'advanced' in the next Census?

(b) Have Government received any complaints and protests against the classification?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the list of "Non-backward Classes" drawn up in certain states for the 1951 census. In past censuses, extensive enquiries used to be made into community distinctions based on Castes, tribes and races. For the 1951 Census, the Government of India decided to limit the scope of such enquiries to the minimum necessary for carrying out certain Constitutional obligations. These relate to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; to other Backward Classes which are to come within the purview of a Backward Classes Commission to be appointed by the President and also to Anglo Indians. Statutory lists are available for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but not for *other* backward classes. As regards the latter State Governments were consulted. In some States lists of Backward Classes have been prepared; in others it has been found more convenient to prepare lists of non-backward classes and to treat all the rest as backward. These lists are necessarily provisional as no precise or permanent definition of backward classes is possible. They are being utilised by the Census to provide the basic material for the Backward Classes Commission.

(b) A few representations have been received.

Bhakra Scheme

***1623. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state what amount of money has so far been spent on the Bhakra Scheme in the Punjab (I)?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): The expenditure to the end of March, 1950 was Rs. 13·25 crores; to the end of 1950-51, it is likely to be Rs. 23·22 crores.

Army Personnel (Missing)

***1624. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of army personnel reported still missing in the Jammu and Kashmir operations since the Cease-fire;

(b) the efforts so far made to trace their whereabouts; and

(c) whether the authorities concerned have been duly advised to send relief or pay money to the members of the missing personnel's families?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) 28.

(b) All the 28 are presumed to be "dead" without prejudice to further efforts to trace them. In order to facilitate further efforts to trace them, the next of kin have been requested to furnish particulars which will be helpful in this connection.

(c) The accounts of all the 28 have been finally settled and steps taken for the grant of family pension.

POPULARISING HINDI FROM CUTTACK A.I.R. STATION

*1633. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state what steps have so far been taken or are proposed to be taken in 1951 by the All-India Radio to popularise Hindi from the Cuttack Radio Station?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): The Cuttack Station of All India Radio daily relays two Hindi news bulletins, broadcasts Hindi lessons on five days in a week, and in addition gives an appreciable number of Hindi items in its musical programmes.

PRESS CORRESPONDENTS

*1634. **Shri Jaganpath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the present number of Indian and foreign press correspondents accredited with the Government of India?

(b) What is the policy for accreditation of a press correspondent at the headquarters of the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) 78 and 18 respectively

(b) Copies of the Rules for Accreditation of Press correspondents are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 27.]

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

*1635. **Shri Oraon:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state what was the total population of the tribal aboriginal communities of India according to the census of 1941, State-wise?

(b) What was the number of these people in India after the division of the country?

(c) What is the estimated population of the tribal communities of India State-wise, in 1950?

(d) How many tribes have been left and are not Scheduled?

(e) Have Government held any enquiry before ascertaining the number of tribes who have been scheduled by the President?

(f) Have Government any intention to enquire the conditions of the unscheduled tribal communities of India including those of the Part C States and make them scheduled, in order to give them the opportunities provided by the Constitution?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the "Census of India, 1941—Tables, Vol. I-Part I" which is a published document.

(b) 248 lakhs.

(c) No estimate has been made except of tribes scheduled as such under Article 341(1) of the Constitution.

(d) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to communities treated as 'tribes' in the 1941 Census and have not been scheduled under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. It is not possible to arrive at this number as the total number of communities treated as 'tribes' in the 1941 census is not available.

(e) The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 was issued after consultation with States as provided in Article 342(1) of the Constitution.

(f) Article 340 of the Constitution provides for the appointment of a Backward Classes Commission to investigate the conditions of all socially and educationally backward classes throughout the country, including Part C States and make such recommendations as they think proper. The recommendation, if any, of the Commission for scheduling of any unscheduled tribe will be duly considered by the Government.

T. A. TO MINISTERS

*1636. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the travelling allowances drawn by different Ministers of the Government of India including the Ministers of State and the Deputy Ministers during the year 1950-51 (up to 31st January, 1951)?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): I lay on the Table of the House a statement containing information up to 18th February 1951. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 28.]

A. I. R. STATION AT SIMLA

*1637. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open a new station of the A. I. R. at Simla; and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

ASSISTANTS (PROMOTION)

103. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of Assistants promoted as (i) Superintendents; (ii) Assistant Secretaries; (iii) Under Secretaries; and (iv) Deputy Secretaries or officer of corresponding rank in the Ministries of the Government of India since the 15th August, 1947?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 29.]

ASSAULT BY MILITARY PERSONNEL

104. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 651 asked on the 5th December, 1950, regarding assault by military personnel in Jubbulpore and to state:

(a) whether the Summary of Evidence against the army officer concerned has been completed; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) Although a *prima facie* case was NOT disclosed in the Summary of Evidence, it has been decided to try the officer by a General Court Martial on the grounds that such a step is necessary to place the full facts of the case on record.

The General Court Martial commenced on the 12th February, 1951.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 22nd February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MINIMUM PRICE FOR RAW JUTE

*1638. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Government of India contemplate fixing a minimum price for raw jute to be paid to jute growers as is done in the case of the sugar-cane growers?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): No, Sir. The Government of West Bengal have, however, taken powers to fix minimum prices of raw jute bought from the cultivators under clause 10 of the Raw Jute (Central Jute Board and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, 1950.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government any idea at what price jute is being purchased from the jute growers?

Shri Karmarkar: We presume that it is being purchased at the fixed price. That is our presumption.

Shri A. C. Guha: For instance the fixed price is Rs. 35 at Calcutta. I want to know at what price it is purchased from the jute growers.

Shri Karmarkar: I shall have that collected. But it is different at different places depending on the distance. In Calcutta the price is Rs. 35 per maund as my friend knows.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not true that the Government has got an integrated plan for the self-sufficiency of jute,

cotton and food and, if so, when the minimum price has been fixed in respect of cotton and sugarcane why has the Government not fixed any minimum price in respect of jute?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid the question is mixed up with two parts. As regards the first part whether there is an integrated plan, my information is that there is an integrated plan for the growth of jute, cotton and rice, I could not exactly follow the second part of my friend's question.

Shri A. C. Guha: While in respect of the other two items, namely cotton and sugarcane, minimum prices have been fixed, as also for wheat and rice when procurement is done, why has an exception been made in case of the jute growers?

Shri Karmarkar: It has not still been found necessary to fix minimum prices for jute. But as my hon. friend knows from the answer, in the Ordinance concerned Government have taken powers to fix minimum prices whenever necessity arises.

Shri B. K. Das: There was a proposal about raising the ceiling prices and it was being considered. Has any decision been taken about that?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: As regards the question of minimum prices for jute being fixed, have the Government enquired how much profit the middleman is making in handling the jute from the jute grower to the mill?

Shri Karmarkar: We have had no enquiries made, but different information is conveyed at different times. It varies.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will Government make an enquiry as to what profit the middleman makes in the course of handling jute?

Shri Karmarkar: Do I understand my friend to mean by 'middleman'

the man who directly purchases from the grower and sells there?

Shri A. C. Guha: The man who directly purchases from the grower and supplies the jute to the Central Jute Board.

Shri Karmarkar: I shall have an enquiry made on that.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: Does the price that has been fixed apply to the other growing areas such as Orissa, Bihar and Assam?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, it does.

Shri Jnani Ram: Does Government, in fixing minimum prices, consult any organisation on behalf of the growers?

Shri Karmarkar: Certainly, we consult all prominent organisations. We welcome all suggestions and we consider all of them.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it a fact that because of the very low price that the jute growers are getting, they are getting discouraged to grow more jute?

Shri Karmarkar: Government does not agree that they are getting a 'low' price at Rs. 35 per maund.

Shri Munavalli: Has any representation been made to Government for fixing minimum prices for jute?

Shri Karmarkar: Not to my knowledge. But I shall make enquiries and tell my friend if there is any.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

*1639. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreed decision has been arrived at between the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura and the Government of East Bengal in the matter of setting up Trustee Committees for Evacuee Property; and

(b) if so, whether necessary legislation has been enacted to set up such committees?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). Yes. The Governments of East Bengal, West Bengal and Assam have promulgated on the 6th February, 1951, Ordinances for setting up Evacuee Property Management Committees in their areas. The Tripura State is expected to take similar action shortly.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the Government of India have examined the constitution and functions of such Committees?

Dr. Keskar: The Ordinances for setting up the Committees have been promulgated now. The Committees will be set up shortly. The question will arise only when the Committees are set up.

Shri A. C. Guha: When do the Government propose to set up the Committees?

Dr. Keskar: Very shortly.

Shri A. C. Guha: What will be the functions and terms of reference of those Committees?

Dr. Keskar: The main function of the Committee will be to look after the proper management of the property of an evacuee pending his return.

Shri B. K. Das: Has the limiting date for this purpose, namely 31st December 1950, been extended or does it remain unaltered?

Dr. Keskar: I think the date is not December 1950. The Committee will take charge of evacuee properties in the following cases:

(a) if before the 31st March, 1951 the evacuee makes to the prescribed authority a declaration of his intention not to return to his home;

(b) if, after the 31st March, 1951, the evacuee has not returned to his home whether there is or there is not a declaration by him of his intention not to return and whether there is or there is not an application by him to the Committee to take charge of his property.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the legislation necessary for the purpose would be passed by the State Assembly or whether it will have anything to do with the Centre also?

Dr. Keskar: As I said, the Ordinances have been promulgated by the various States and certainly the States will make legislation wherever necessary.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Committee also take up the properties of those who will be leaving East Pakistan in 1951, or is there a dead-line that after that date no evacuee property will be taken over by that Committee?

Dr. Keskar: I think it is mainly intended for those who have left up to the dead-line of this date which I have just now quoted.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Will the decision of the Committee be binding on the Government concerned?

Dr. Keskar: Naturally, the decision of the Committee will be binding on Government.

Shri B. K. Das: According to the terms of the agreement the migrants from Bihar also will come under the purview of this arrangement, that is, their properties also will be taken charge of by the Trustee Committees. Has it been decided to form a Trustee Committee in Bihar also?

Dr. Keskar: As far as the Ordinances about which questions have been put are concerned, Bihar is not included in this.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are these Committees set up jointly by the different State Governments, or are separate Committees of State Governments working under the agreement that has been reached among these State Governments?

Dr. Keskar: The Committees have been set up according to the agreement that has been reached between the two Governments. The Committees will be composed of the representatives of the minorities concerned with a presiding officer given by Government.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What will be the basis of the constitution of these Committees? Will they be formed according to the Ordinances promulgated or will they be according to the Act which will be enacted?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said already that it will be settled later on.

Dr. Keskar: Of course, the Ordinance would be converted into an Act. It makes no difference.

TRADE MARKS (INFRINGEMENT)

*1640. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of infringement of Trade Marks were reported during the years 1949 and 1950, each year separately; and

(b) in how many cases action was taken for such infringement of Trade Marks and with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Government have no figures regarding the number of cases in which Trade Marks have been infringed, but several complaints have been received in recent months alleging infringements in respect of trade marks.

(b) Action in respect of infringement of trade marks has to be taken by the owners of the trade marks concerned, and not by Government. No figures are available as to the number of cases in which action was taken by the owners, and no information is available as to the results.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any agency exists with the Government in regard to the detecting of such cases? If not, what are the reasons for not having it?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to inform my hon. friend the present position. According to the law as it stands at present, the offence of infringement of trade marks is a non-cognizable offence. We have received complaints that there is a sizable number, roughly about 10,000 during the last year of infringement of such trade marks and we are considering the question as to whether it would not be better to make the offence cognizable. Therefore under the present law, we could not find out because the infringers of trade marks do not take us into their confidence.

Shri Sidhva: Has the Government no information regarding the cases that have been actually prosecuted?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said in the printed answer the figures are not at present available. We shall try to find out—but that involves enquiries in the whole of India.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the headquarters for the registration of these trade marks and are there any territorial or regional jurisdiction or special jurisdiction according to subjects fixed?

Shri Karmarkar: It does not arise out of the question.

Shri Munavalli: May I ask how many complaints were received in the recent months?

Shri Karmarkar: The exact number of the complaints received is not with us now but a number of representations from Chambers of Commerce and Associations of manufacturers stating that in recent years the infringements have been common, have been received.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether some merchants or the Chambers of Commerce have made representations to the Government to the effect that some printing presses have specialized in producing imitation labels? May I know with regard to this particular infringement whether Government have taken notice of that representation made?

Shri Karmarkar: Our general information is that the procedure in infringement of trade marks is to make exact replicas of the containers and

labels used by manufacturers of well-known goods and to use such containers with spurious goods and in some cases second-hand containers are used for the purpose. We have not got a specific complaint that such and such a label is used excepting one.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the offices in Bangalore, Bombay and Calcutta are treated on the same level?

Shri Karmarkar: Again, I shall be very happy to answer that question if it is put down. It does not arise in my opinion out of this question.

SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS TO AIR HOSTESSES

*1641. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the South African Government have issued a new set of instructions that whenever a plane lands in that country and Indian passengers leave their seats, the Air Hostesses should put a red tape on all articles for the purpose of washing them by a hygienic process instead of the usual laundering applied to articles used by White People?

(b) If so, in how many cases have such instructions been carried out by the Air Hostesses in the case of Indian passengers?

(c) Have Government taken any action in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) According to the information received by Government, the South African Airways have issued instructions for special hygienic laundering of all linen and other articles of equipment used by non-European passengers travelling in South African planes. The Air Hostesses and others concerned have been asked to tag all such articles. Government are not aware whether these instructions have been issued under the authority of the South African Union Government or by the South African Airways themselves.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) This is, apparently, a further application of the policy of segregation of non-Europeans in South Africa, which is the declared policy of the Government of the Union of South Africa. As the House is aware, the Government and the people of India have taken the strongest objection to this policy which is insulting not only to Indians but to all non-Europeans. The whole question has been before the United Nations, where recently a resolution was passed in regard to this general policy. Government do not propose to make repeated protests about various applications of this policy, but all such applications are relevant to the consideration of the main issue by the United Nations.

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand clearly from the hon. Minister's answer that those instructions issued by the South African Government for the disinfecting of clothes etc. of the passengers arriving in South Africa are only for Indian passengers and not for all passengers?

Dr. Keskar: They are for all non-European passengers and as I said we are not sure and we do not know whether it is the South African Government who have issued these instructions or the South African Airways. As far as the passengers are concerned, it is the South African Airways who have issued the instructions.

Shri Joachim Alva: Government in the past had taken certain retaliatory measures against South Africans in India. Are those measures existing now or have they been withdrawn or relaxed? Are Government aware that a large number of South Africans in this country are posing themselves as Europeans or as nationals of this country?

Dr. Keskar: They are in force even now. They will be until the situation changes. I am not aware of South Africans masquerading under the nationality of other countries. We can only take measures against those who are South African nationals, that is those who have got a South African passport. It is not possible for us to take measures against others.

Shri Kamath: Was this new regulation, Sir, with regard to the hygienic laundering of non-Europeans' baggage introduced after the enforcement of the Group Areas Act or earlier?

Dr. Keskar: Most probably after that, I am sorry I cannot give the date.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the Government be pleased to state if they would have any objection to Indian Airway companies passing similar instructions to their air hostesses as have been done by the South African Government against non-Europeans?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir.

Pandit Kunzru: Have Government made any efforts to obtain accurate information on this subject?

Dr. Keskar: This is very definite and clear that the South African Airways have issued such instructions and that they are carrying them out is quite clear.

Pandit Kunzru: Will Government also find out whether the South African Airways have done this of their own accord or it was under instructions explicit or implied of the South African Government?

Dr. Keskar: If the hon. Member is interested, we can certainly do that, but as I said in my answer, we do not see that any useful purpose will be served by pursuing this question, as we know well the policy and the attitude of the South African Government.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या इस सम्बन्ध में साउथ अफ्रीकन इंडियन कांग्रेस से सरकार के पास कोई पत्र आया है और क्या उस पत्र में यह लिखा गया है कि यद्यपि इन नियमों के सम्बन्ध में कहा यह जाता है कि वह सब नान योरोपियन्स पर लागू होंगे पर यथार्थ में भारतीयों पर लागू किय जा रहे हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Has any communication been received from the South African Indian Congress in this connection wherein it is mentioned that although these rules are professed to apply to all non-Europeans they are in fact being applied to Indians only?]

डा० केसकर: मेरी जानकारी में ऐसा कोई खत नहीं आया है ।

[**Dr. Keskar:** So far as I know, no such communication has been received.]

Shrimati Renuka Ray: The hon. Deputy Minister in his reply stated that the Government do not contemplate such action against all non-Europeans but if it is a fact that it was at the instance of the South African Government, would they consider bringing in similar regulation at least against South Africans?

Dr. Keskar: The number of South Africans who might chance to travel by our Airways would, I think, be infinitesimal and Government does not think it proper or feasible to pass such a legislation for a few South Africans who might be travelling by our Airways.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this order is also applicable to the aircrafts which are flown by Indian companies between India and Johannesburg?

Dr. Keskar: There are no Indian Air ways going to South Africa. Probably my hon. friend is thinking of our Service to East Africa.

Shri Karunakara Menon: May I know whether there are no international organizations like an international organization to which such insults could be referred for redress?

Dr. Keskar: There is an International Civil Aviation Organization, but I do not know whether it is competent to take cognizance of this particular matter.

Shri Kamath: Is it because Government find it difficult to distinguish South Africans from Europeans or other Whites that they consider that it is not possible or rather difficult to apply such regulations to South African passengers travelling by our Airways?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There are very very few South Africans in India—I cannot give the number—very infinitesimal. Out of those very few, presumably still fewer think of travelling by air. It would mean not harassing that particular individual; but harassing all passengers to find out if possibly a South African is amongst them. Going about asking everybody, 'Are you a South African', is a totally impracticable proposition. That would mean so much resentment from every passenger that the hon. Member can only imagine that we cannot do it.

Shri Kamath: Sir, is it not possible...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

REHABILITATION BENEFITS TO DISPLACED STUDENTS

*1642. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that displaced students who have secured scholarships are being denied other rehabilitation benefits to which they are entitled under the schemes approved by the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): No.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any complaints have been received by the Rehabilitation Ministry from students who secured a scholarship on merits, stating that their rehabilitation benefits have since been discontinued?

Shri A. P. Jain: At a very early stage, some complaints were received; but, action was taken on those complaints and now, if a student gets a merit scholarship, rehabilitation benefits are not denied or stopped.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the names of the State Governments who had denied rehabilitation benefits

to students who had secured scholarship on merits?

Shri A. P. Jain: There were sporadic cases here and there. I cannot say whether any State passed any such order.

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि वह विद्यार्थी जो कालिजों में पढ़ रहे हैं, उनके स्टाइपेंड में इज़ाफा करने के बारे में क्या गवर्नमेंट सोच रही है क्योंकि मंहगाई ज्यादा बढ़ रही है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether in view of increasing dearness the Government propose to increase the amount of stipend given to the students studying in colleges?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : नहीं ऐसा तो कोई विचार नहीं है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** There is no such proposal.]

گیانی - جی - ایس - مسافر - ایسے کتنے ودیارتھی ہوں گے جن کو اسکالرشپ ملتا ہے پر انہوں نے لون کے لئے بھی درخواستیں دی ہیں -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** What is the number of those students who are getting scholarship but have also applied for loans?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अब तो लोन की कोई स्कीम नहीं है, और विद्यार्थियों के सम्बन्ध में तो ऐसा कोई प्रश्न उठ ही नहीं सकता ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** There is no scheme for loans now, and the question does not arise in case of students.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the amount of monthly allowance which a displaced student gets?

Shri A. P. Jain: Intermediate in Arts and Science, Inter. Com., Diploma course in Agriculture and Veterinary Science, Rs. 30; B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc. (Ag.), B.Com., Rs. 40; Degree course in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Mining and Metallurgical and Medical courses Rs. 60. Diploma courses in the above group Rs. 50; Chemical, Navigational and Irrigational Engineering, Rs. 40; Radio Servicing, Automobile Engineering and Technological courses Rs. 30; other courses not specified above Rs. 30 to 50 at the discretion of the State Government depending on the cost of each course.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the total number of displaced students who are receiving rehabilitation benefits?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got these figures. The collection of these figures will mean a considerable amount of labour.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether this amount that they are getting is for their maintenance or whether they have to pay school fees and other charges also out of this amount?

Shri A. P. Jain: These stipends are not meant for the maintenance of the student; but they cover the expenses on tuition fees, books, instruments and other things.

Shri K. C. Sharma: What is the total amount spent on stipends?

Shri A. P. Jain: This scheme has been started during the current year. We are not in a position to state how much will have been spent at the end of the year.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question. 1644.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: On a point of order, Sir, I do not know the reason why my question 1643 was disallowed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has been transferred to the Minister of States for answer on 28th February 1951.

Shri Kamath: He should have been informed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will ask them to inform him.

Shri Kamath: Informed earlier, Sir.

Demarcation of Boundary between India and Pakistan

*1644. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what progress, if any, has been made towards the demarcation of fixed boundary lines between India and Pakistan in accordance with the Redcliffe and Bagge Awards?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The progress made in the demarcation of the Indo-Pakistan boundary in the different areas is as follows:—

West Bengal—East Bengal

Out of the total length of 700 miles constituting the boundary between West Bengal and East Bengal, a length of 90 miles, in the district of Murshidabad, was referred to the Bagge Tribunal and in accordance with its Award, air photography of the area has been completed and a hydrographic survey is in progress. It is hoped that the middle of the main channel, which will form the boundary in this area will be fixed in the course of the year.

As regards demarcation of the rest of the West Bengal—East Bengal boundary, work has started in November 1950 and about 105 miles of the boundary have been reconnoitred and positions for fixing pillars have been suggested. The demarcation of the entire boundary is expected to be completed in three years.

East Bengal—Assam boundary

The demarcation of the disputed portion of the boundary, in the Patharia and Kusiara areas, in accordance with the Award of the Bagge Tribunal, is awaiting agreement between the Governments of India and Pakistan on certain matters.

The ground reconnaisance work of the undisputed portion of the Assam—East Bengal boundary is expected to be completed shortly and air photographs of the area are expected to be taken thereafter by the end of February 1951. Boundary pillars already exist in this area.

The demarcation of the boundary between Tripura and East Bengal, Bihar and East Bengal, as well as between West Pakistan and India has not yet been started.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the machinery which will decide the points of difference arising between India and Pakistan on this score?

Dr. Keskar: Broadly speaking, there have been differences only with regard to certain areas; there is no dispute about other areas. So, Government does not expect much dispute arising with regard to the main boundary. But, as I stated in my reply, there has been dispute with regard to 90 miles of boundary between West Bengal and East Bengal. It was for that purpose that it was referred to the Bagge Tribunal for award. The Award has been given and the Government is now in consultation with Pakistan Government trying to implement that Award.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that besides these 90 miles, there is no dispute between East Bengal and West Bengal boundaries?

Dr. Keskar: There are two disputes between East Bengal and West Bengal. These are the major disputes. There might be minor quarrels, with regard, for example, to a certain village, which I referred to in reply to a question by the hon. Member. They are very minor disputes. The major disputes are only two with regard to the boundary between West Bengal and East Bengal.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any territory which was previously held by India and which is now held by Pakistan?

Dr. Keskar: As I stated in my reply, half of two villages is held by the Government of East Bengal which they claim as their territory; but the dispute is being settled by discussion between the District Magistrates on both sides.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any boundary dispute between East Bengal and Cooch-Behar State i.e. of any territory formerly under the Cooch-Behar State now integrated in West Bengal?

Dr. Keskar: I am not aware of any major dispute with regard to this boundary.

Shri Chaliha: In view of the existence of oil in Patharia Reserve, may I know whether Government will accelerate the work of demarcation of the boundary?

Dr. Keskar: As I said, the Award has been given and we are trying certainly to speed up the permanent settlement of this dispute. But, I am afraid that as long as one or two points in dispute with regard to the interpretation of the award are not settled, it will not be possible to take the next step.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know the reason why the work of demarcating the boundary between West Pakistan and India has not yet started, and how soon it is going to be started?

Dr. Keskar: The more urgent work, that is where the dispute was actually raised, has been taken up. But, the other one will also be taken up immediately afterwards.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether our patrol, if any, in these two disputed villages were forcibly driven out by the Pakistan forces?

Dr. Keskar: I have replied very fully with regard to these villages in my reply to the other question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

MATCH FACTORIES

*1645. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of large and small scale factories for the manufacture of matches in the Indian Union;

(b) the number of labourers employed therein;

(c) the total quantity and value of matches produced in India during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(d) the total quantity and value of matches required for local consumption in India;

(e) the number and value of matches imported into and exported from India during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50; and

(f) what is the maximum productive capacity of these factories?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Large-scale factories—5; Small-scale factories—200.

(b) About 20,000.

(c)

Year	Quantity [in cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each]	Value (in rupees)
1948-49	5,22,243	16,32,01,250
1949-50	5,23,466	16,35,83,125

(d) Total quantity required for local consumption. About 5,00,000 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each. Value Rs. 15,62,50,000.

(e) Imports.

	Quantity Gross boxes	Value Rs.
1948-49	106	9
1949-50	136	429

Exports—

Considerable quantities were exported during recent years, but exact figures are not available as the article is not separately specified in the foreign export trade returns of India.

(f) About 8,00,000 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each.

Shri Venkataraman: Sir, may I know.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall give preference to the hon. Member who tabled the question, in the matter of putting supplementary questions.

An Hon. Member: He is not putting any, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

Shri Venkataraman: Sir, with reference to part (c) of the answer, what portion of the total quantity produced is produced on a cottage industry basis?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry, though I myself wanted to make a distinction on that basis and get separate figures, I could not get them. But I am trying to get the separate figures.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether any assistance is being given to those who are carrying on the industry on a cottage industry basis?

Shri Mahtab: At present, on the contrary, there are some obstructions which I am trying to remove.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether representations were made to the hon. Minister that some rebate in excise duty or some preference in the railway rates may be given to encourage this cottage industry?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already said, the rules as they stand at present are against this cottage industry and I am trying to remove these obstacles or obstructions. After we have done that, we will come to the question of giving more assistance or concessions to this industry.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, what are the States which supply the raw materials required for this industry?

Shri Mahtab: Potassium chlorate is required and that is produced in some factories in Madras and Bengal. The main raw material is soft wood and the major portion of this came from the Andamans. At present some other States also supply this soft wood, but I do not have the detailed information with me here.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Sir, did some factories in the Madras State approach the Centre for State aid, and if so, to what extent did the Centre respond and to which companies was this aid given?

Shri Mahtab: The Centre has not got the funds at it's disposal to give this kind of aid; and it is the State Governments which have to give this aid. I suppose the State Government of Madras probably was approached; if the hon. Member wants, I shall get this information from that Government.

Shri Rudrappa: Of those concerns engaged in this industry, may I know how many are Indian-owned and how many foreign-owned and what is the

Indian capital invested in it and what is the capital invested by foreign concerns?

Shri Mahtab: I am afraid I do not have that information.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What are the raw materials which.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The next question deals with the raw materials.

Shri Bharati: Sir, I want to know how many factories run on a cottage industry basis have gone out of existence in South India in the recent past?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has already said that he does not have the details.

Shri Bharati: But, Sir, representations have come to the Government; I myself have made a representation about factories which have gone out of existence for lack of aid at the proper time.

Shri Mahtab: I suppose the question is as to how many factories have gone out of existence. I do not have their exact number, but I know many have.

Shri Raj Bahadur: With reference to part (e), may I know the names of the countries to which exports are made and what encouragement was given by Government to develop this trade?

Shri Mahtab: As the House is aware, there is not even complete self-sufficiency in our country with regard to matches, the production being a little less than requirement. So there is no question of encouraging the export trade. Hon. Members will remember that we have at present lost the Pakistan market and when that is revived, there will actually be shortage here.

Shri Alexander: In view of the fact that the requirements of India are less than the total production, do Government propose to prohibit imports?

Shri Mahtab: There is no question of imports at present. The factories do not produce to their installed capacities and we are now trying to make them produce to their installed capacities.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Was a considerable quantity exported last year?

Shri Mahtab: I have not got separate figures.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: How many of the factories in India are Indian-owned and how many foreign-owned?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has said he has not got this information.

Shri Kamath: Of the match-makers in India, may I know what percentage of the total production is by Indian interests and what percentage is produced by non-Indian ones?

Shri Mahtab: I think it is again a question how many are Indian-owned and how many foreign-owned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No no, he is more anxious about match makers. We go to the next question. With respect to such questions which are not of very great importance, and where there may not be many supplementaries, the answer may be given in two or three items, it need not run from (a) to (f) or from (a) to (z).

RAW MATERIALS FOR MATCH INDUSTRY

*1646. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the requirements of match industry both in respect of chemicals and wood in relation to their overall installed capacity;

(b) what quantity of raw material, chemicals and wood was available to these factories during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(c) to what extent the industry was affected in these years owing to the insufficient supply of chemicals and wood;

(d) what steps the Government of India have taken so far for making the Indian Union self-sufficient in respect of her requirements of chemicals and wood for match industry;

(e) what quantity of raw materials in chemicals and wood are imported into India to meet the requirements of the match industry and what proportion was supplied from local resources; and

(f) by which date India is expected to be self-sufficient in chemicals and wood and whether the Government of India have any plan for making available the requisite quality and quantity of wood and chemicals from indigenous sources?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Annual requirements of the match industry in relation to its overall installed capacity are as follows:

	Tons
(i) Chemicals.	
Potassium chlorate	2,500
Phosphorus	200
Sulphur	250
Glue	500
(ii) Wood.	120,000

(b) The match factories were able to procure their requirements of these materials in full, except in the case of wood, of which only 100,000 tons were available to them in each of these two years.

(c) The industry has been able to maintain its production during the past three years.

(d) The following steps have been taken:

(i) Assistance has been rendered to two private firms in setting up their plants for the manufacture of potassium chlorate. These firms produce about 2,000 tons of potassium chlorate annually.

(ii) Assistance has been given to the industry in obtaining the necessary supplies of soft wood. State Governments have been requested to encourage systematic plantation of soft wood.

(e)

	Quantities imported	Quantities supplied from Indian sources
	Tons	Tons
Potassium chlorate	500	2,000
Phosphorus .	200	*Nil*
Sulphur .	250	*Nil*
Glue .	*Nil*	500
Wood. .	*Nil*	100,000

(f) Chemicals.

(i) Potassium chlorate: India is expected to be self-sufficient in the near future.

(ii) Phosphorus: Owing to inadequate natural resources and the limited demand for this chemical, its production has not been undertaken in India so far.

(iii) Sulphur: Sulphur deposits are not available in India. The question of its manufacture from gypsum is under investigation.

(iv) Glue: India is already producing all the glue required by the industry.

(v) Wood: Industry's requirements are met from indigenous sources. Efforts are being made to augment supplies from Andamans.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the value of the imports of the chemicals and other materials required for the industry?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I have not got the money value.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether a large number of match factories were closed in South India because of the non-availability of band papers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister has already said that some factories have been closed.

Shri Mahtab: I do not know the exact number nor the exact reasons for the closing of these factories.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the supply of band rolls is done by the Finance Ministry and not by the Industry and Supply Ministry and hence the difficulties?

Shri Mahtab: I have already said in answer to a previous question that there are certain restrictions which I am looking into and which I hope will be removed very soon.

Syed Nausherali: May I know whether Government have ever enquired as to the reasons for the closure of these cottage industries?

Shri Mahtab: This is one of the subjects which was very thoroughly discussed at the meeting of the Cottage Industries Board at Bolepur. The reasons are being further inquired into and some steps will be taken to encourage cottage industries.

Shri Karunakara Menon: Are there particular areas where the wood required for the match industry grows well and if so, in view of the vast destruction of such trees, what steps are the Government taking to see that these trees are grown on an elaborate scale?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already said in reply to another question we have addressed ourselves to the State Governments to encourage the growing of these trees.

TEA

*1647. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tea produced annually in Assam and North Bengal districts of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling;

(b) what quantity is being carried by Assam Rail Link at present; and

(c) what quantity is being carried through Pakistan?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The tea production during 1950 in Assam and North Bengal districts of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling is estimated at 500,206,960 lbs.

(b) About 1,13,912,300 lbs. were carried by the Assam Rail Link during 1950.

(c) About 3,10,636,000 lbs. were carried through Pakistan during 1950.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that a large portion, practically two-third, of the quantity of the tea produced in India is at present being carried through Pakistan, do the Government or the Department concerned have in contemplation in the near future any scheme to increase the capacity of the all-India link, so that all the tea produced in India may be carried by this rail link?

Shri Karmarkar: As the hon. Member knows there are two routes by which the tea produced in Assam can come—one is *via* Pakistan and the other is the Assam rail link. I would like to know what my hon. friend wants.

Shri Barman: I want to know whether it is contemplated in the near future to increase the capacity of the rail link.

Shri Karmarkar: I shall be happy to forward the question to the Railway Ministry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, I have a supplementary question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It may be reserved for another question.

PIG IRON

*1648. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the production of pig iron during 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) how much quantity has been exported during the above period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):

(a) 1949-50 .....16,60,000 tons.
1950-51..16,74,000 tons (Estimated)

(b) 1949-50..61,669 tons } of off-grade iron.
1950-51..22,384 tons }

(nine months from April to Dec., 50)

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is any export price fixed for this or is it sold in the free market?

Shri Mahtab: No export price is fixed for it.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What amount was imported during the same period?

Shri Mahtab: There has been no import.

RUBBER

*1649. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan of Government to meet the rubber shortage in the country;

(b) whether there is any difference of views between the growers and manufacturers in fixing the price of raw-rubber; and

(c) whether any State Government had asked for freezing raw rubber for the use of manufacturers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Government have recently appointed a Rubber Controller, who has been empowered to distribute all available stocks of indigenous rubber, to the manufacturers. Licences are also being issued to the manufacturers to import their requirement of rubber over and above the indigenous production.

(b) A few months ago producers and manufacturers agreed upon a price of Rs. 100 per 100 lbs. of raw rubber, but the matter is again being considered by their representative at a meeting of the Rubber Price Advisory Committee.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the hon. Minister had asked the Travancore-Cochin State Government to freeze a certain quantity of rubber for the rubber factory there?

Shri Mahtab: That was some months ago: that is not the position now.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is it not a fact that because of the freezing of the total quantity of raw rubber in Travancore State the manufacturers suffered a lot for one or two months?

Shri Mahtab: That is a fact. But most unfortunately the Rubber Price Advisory Committee have not yet sent in their recommendations. But I hope they will do it in the course of today or tomorrow and as soon as it is received it will be considered.

Shri Damodara Menon: Is it not a fact that the hon. Minister made an announcement in Madras in the second week of January that the price of raw rubber will be increased to Rs. 122-8?

Shri Mahtab: There was no announcement but when the representatives of the rubber industry, the representatives of the Madras Government and the representatives of the Travancore Government discussed the matter with me tentatively we agreed that the

rubber price should be increased by Rs. 32 and odd. However, it requires legal sanction under the Rubber Act. Under the Act the Price Advisory Committee must advise the Government on the subject. Therefore the matter has been referred to the Price Advisory Committee.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether a unanimous resolution of the Travancore-Cochin State Legislature was sent to the Central Government regarding the inadequacy of the price of raw rubber and the necessity of lifting the freezing order?

Shri Mahtab: That is a fact.

Shri Lakshmanan: What action has been taken on the matter?

Shri Mahtab: I have already said that action has been taken and that the matter has been referred to the Price Advisory Committee for their opinion, which is required under the Act.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What is the difference in the price per ton between the world market in rubber and the price fixed for the Indian rubber?

Shri Mahtab: I do not know the exact information but so far as my information goes the Indian price is about Rs. 90 and the foreign price is about Rs. 450 per 100 lbs.

Shri Damodara Menon: Is it not a fact that the price of rubber tyres manufactured in India has been increased by about 15 per cent. on account of the price of raw rubber increasing?

Shri Mahtab: Not on that account. The prices of rubber manufactures have been increased in consideration of the fact that manufacturers have to import large quantities of foreign rubber.

Shri Venkataraman: Is the hon. Minister aware that as a result of his announcement during his visit to Madras which appeared in the papers the market has come to a standstill and there is no sale of raw rubber?

Shri Mahtab: It is not on account of that discussion but it is on account of the protest which the growers are lodging from time to time. As a matter of fact the situation became so bad some months back that the Government of India had to take steps to freeze the stocks and ask the Travancore Chief Secretary to distribute them. Therefore, the discussion has nothing to do with it. The matter is very much under consideration and a decision will be arrived at in a few days.

Shri Venkataraman: Did the hon. Minister know at the time when that conference was going on that the price of rubber would have to be determined by the Tariff Board?

Shri Mahtab: The Tariff Board is at present working it out. It is investigating the whole question—not only the price but various other points have been referred to the Tariff Board at the instance of the rubber industry. We are now awaiting its report.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it true that almost all the raw rubber produced in this country is bought over by some foreign firms like Dunlop and Firestone, and the price is fixed by a Controller appointed from one of these two firms, and especially that when the world price is Rs. 400 the price for our raw rubber is fixed at Rs. 100 to the detriment of the producers in this country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I say that questions ought not to be so long? It is not possible to answer them.

Shri Joachim Alva: I will give you an explanation, Sir. I wanted to put two questions but could not get an opportunity to do so.

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member will refer to the rubber law he will find that there are machineries to advise Government on price fixation. Therefore the Government do not listen to this manufacturer's advice or that manufacturer's. With regard to the raw rubber going to the manufacturers, I do not understand where else raw rubber will go. It must go to the manufacturing place. It is for that reason that it is produced. I do not see any objection in raw rubber going to the manufacturers' place. With regard to the price, as I said, there is a statutory body—the Price Advisory Committee—under the Indian Rubber Act, and that body advises the Government.

Shri Sidhva: If the rate was to be fixed by the Committee, I want to know why the hon. Minister made an announcement in Madras that the rate shall be Rs. 122-8. I want to know why he made an advance announcement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has already said that he had discussed it with those people and that he never intended it to be an announcement.

Shri Sidhva: It was stated in all papers that it was an announcement.

Shri Mahtab: Mr. Sidhva knows it very well that it was not an announcement, but he simply repeats it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now proceed to the next question. Enough has been said about this elastic substance.

JUTE HESSIAN

*1653. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that jute *hessian* is required for packing coir mats and mattings for export to foreign countries and that a substantial quantity of jute webbing is used for stitching ends of coir rugs;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the coir mats and matting Industry of Travancore-Cochin requesting that arrangements be made for the supply of jute *hessian*, jute webbing and jute twine; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The position is that, owing to reduced production and increased overseas demand, the availability of *hessian* for internal consumptions is getting acute. It has not been the policy of Government to requisition goods for indigenous industry or individual consumers or shippers. Government are however, fully alive to the necessity of meeting the needs of various industries in the country, and efforts are being made in consultation with Jute Controller to make supplies available as far as possible.

Shri Alexander: Are Government aware that the foreign importers are insisting on manufacturers using *hessian* for packing?

Shri Karmarkar: My information is that *hessian* is not required for packing in certain industries. I am not aware that the New Yorkers are insisting upon goods being packed in *hessian*.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the total internal requirement of *hessian*?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got it ready with me now. If the hon. Member wants it I will supply it in due course.

DISPLACED PERSONS (EAST PAKISTAN)

*1654. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total number of displaced persons who have come to (i) India from East Pakistan; and (ii) who have gone to East Pakistan from India during the year 1950?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is not possible to give a separate figure for immigrants either from India to East Pakistan or from East Pakistan to India during the year 1950. Fairly accurate records have been kept of all travellers, including immigrants but also including non-migrants, by train, steamer and air. No records, however, are available for people who cross the border on foot in either direction. A considerable number did so.

The figures of all travellers by train during 1950 are as follows:

From East Pakistan to India: about 32,50,000 Hindus and about 9,64,000 Muslims.

From India to East Pakistan: about 17,52,000 Hindus and about 12,64,000 Muslims.

These are approximate figures for both the periods, before the Agreement of April 1950 and after.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या इस वर्ष जो लोग पाकिस्तान से हिन्दुस्तान को आये और हिन्दुस्तान से पाकिस्तान को गये, उन की संख्या गत वर्ष से कम है या अधिक ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is the number of those persons (1) who have come to India from Pakistan and (2) who have gone to Pakistan from India this year is larger or smaller than that of the last year?]

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : "इस वर्ष" से क्या आप का मतलब है १९५१ ?

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** By "this year" do you mean 1951?]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जी नहीं, सन् १९४८-४९ । मैं ने जो फिगर्स मांगे हैं वे सन् १९४९ से १९५० के मांगे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो लोग सन् १९४८-४९ में आये और गये उन की संख्या सन् १९४९-५० से अधिक थी या कम ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** No, Sir, 1948-49. I have asked for the figures of 1949 and 1950. I want to know whether the number of those persons who came here and migrated from here in 1948-49 was larger or smaller than that of 1949-50.]

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : मेरा ख्याल है कि वह तो बहुत कम रही होगी। मेरे पास वह फिगर्स नहीं हैं। आप देखिये कि शुरू में काफ़ी तादाद में लोग सन् १९४७ के आख़िर में और १९४८ में आये थे, लेकिन उस सिलसिले के बाद सन् १९४८ में बहुत ही कम आये और १९४९ में भी बहुत ही कम आये। फिर ठीक एक साल भर हुआ, यानी फ़रवरी १९५० में, वह सिलसिला फिर शुरू हुआ। वह बढ़ता गया लेकिन अप्रैल में वह कम होना शुरू हुआ और बाद में बन्द हो गया।

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I think that would have been very small. As you know, in the first place at the end of 1947 and in 1948, they came in very large numbers. But consequently, even in 1948, their number went down appreciably and in 1949 too the number was very small. Then, just after a year, that is in February, 1950 that flow again started. It continued to increase but in April it began to slow down and stopped afterwards.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास: जो लोग पाकिस्तान से इस मुसीबत में हिन्दुस्तान को आये उन में से कितने लोग हिन्दुस्तान में रह गये और कितने वापस गये, क्या इसके भी कोई आंकड़े सरकार के पास हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Have the Government any figures of the number of persons who stayed here and of those who returned to Pakistan out of those who had come from there under such miserable plight?]

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : इस का तो अन्दाज़ा इसी से कर सकते हैं कि कितने लोग आये और कितने वापस गये, और फिर भी यह अन्दाज़ा ही है। ट्रैवलर्स को उस में से घटाना है, फिर एमीग्रेंट्स कितने हैं, इन दोनों फिगर्स को घटाने पर आप एक एप्राक्सीमेट फिगर पर पहुंच सकते हैं। मैं ने आप को फिगर्स दिये हैं जिन में वह लोग शामिल हैं जो अभी तक वापस ईस्ट पाकिस्तान जा रहे हैं बनिस्बत उन लोगों के जो ईस्ट पाकिस्तान से आ रहे हैं।

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The number of persons who came to this country and who have since returned can only be guessed and even then the figures will be approximate. The number of regular travellers and emigrants has to be deducted and after deducting these two figures we can find out an approximate figure. The figures I have given are of those who are still on their way to Pakistan and not of those who are coming from East Pakistan.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Do these figures relate only to travellers by rail or do they take into account all travellers, including those by foot or country-boats?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These figures include all railway travellers plus, I believe, air and steamer travellers, but not foot travellers.

Shri A. C. Guha: And by country-boat?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: About boat I cannot say, but generally steamer travel is included.

श्री द्विवेदी : जो लोग ईस्ट पाकिस्तान से हिन्दुस्तान आये और फिर वापस गये, क्या उन की जायदाद के नुक़सान का सरकार कोई अनुमान लगा सकती है, यानी जो लोग आये और वापस गये और उन के इस प्रकार बीच में आने जाने से जो जायदाद का नुक़सान हुआ, क्या सरकार उस का अनुमान लगा सकती है ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** Can the Government form an estimate of the loss of property sustained by those who immigrated into India from East Pakistan and then returned, that is the loss sustained as a result of their coming and going back?]

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू: उस का ख़ास अन्दाज़ा नहीं हो सकता है। ज़ाहिर है कि नुक़सान तो हुआ ही होगा, ऐसे मामलों में। लेकिन अगर आप जो ८ अप्रैल का एग्रीमेंट है उस को पढ़ें तो उस में जायदादों के मज़मून का काफ़ी ज़िक्र है। बहुतों को यह जायदाद मिल चुकी हैं और यह तो रोज़ का सिलसिला है।

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Such estimation is rather difficult. It is clear, however, that losses must have been sustained in such cases. But if you will go through the Agreement of the 8th April you will find that the question of properties has been fully dealt with therein. A number of persons have got their properties and, in fact, it is an every-day affair.]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Price of Houses for Displaced Persons in Delhi

***1650. Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how are the prices of houses built by the Ministry of Rehabilitation for displaced persons in the State of Delhi calculated?

(b) What are the expenditures calculated for a two-roomed tenement with reinforced concrete roof under the following heads:

(i) cost of land if any;

(ii) cost of labour; and

(iii) cost of materials?

(c) What is the ground rent payable annually for each such two-roomed house?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The price of super-structure is calculated on the basis of cost of construction.

(b) (i) The land is not sold but leased.

(ii) and (iii) Rs. 1,300 and Rs. 3,000 respectively, excluding Departmental charges of C.P.W.D.

(c) The ground rent is calculated on the basis of cost of acquisition and development of land and varies in different colonies, *e.g.*, in Patel Nagar the ground rent on the site of 200 square yards is Rs. 69-5 per annum.

Markets in Delhi for Displaced Persons

***1651. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of markets that have been constructed or are being constructed in Delhi by the Ministry of Rehabilitation;

(b) the total number of shops in those markets;

(c) the number of shops let out on rent uptil now to the displaced persons; and

(d) whether there is any uniformity in the rates of rent of shops in different markets?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 15 markets have been constructed and 6 are under construction.

(b) 1516.

(c) 659.

(d) Yes. The basis of calculating the rent is uniform.

Export of Cloth

***1652. Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that export of cloth from India has affected the internal supply position in the country and if so, how Government propose to meet the requirements of the country?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Yes to some extent. To satisfy internal demand exports of fine and superfine cloth have been totally banned and for coarse and medium cloth they are restricted to 120 million yards for both hard and soft currency areas for the current half year.

Export of Tea

***1655. Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total quantities of export of tea during the last three financial years ending with 1949-50 and how does this figure compare with the export during the year 1950-51?

(b) Has there been any substantial decrease in export of tea due to floods and earthquake in Assam and if so, to what extent and of what value?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The tea exports for the last three financial years are as follows:

1947-48—383,984,630 lbs.
1948-49—405,906,702 lbs.
1949-50—439,604,683 lbs.

Statistics are available only for the period up to December 1950 and quantity of tea exported during April to December 1950 is 301,536,424 lbs., as against the export of 350,108, 089 lbs.; 265,394.730 lbs. and 290,755,853 lbs. respectively during the corresponding periods in 1949, 1948 and 1947.

(b) There has been no decrease in export of tea due to floods and earthquake in Assam.

IMPORT LICENCES

*1656. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether representations have been received from the citizens of some States to the effect that the import licences be distributed among the applicants on a proportionate State-wise basis?

(b) If so, what is the decision of Government in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. A few representations have been received, that special licences should be granted to cover the requirements of particular States.

(b) Government have carefully considered, and it has not been found practicable at present to accede to the request.

AUTOMOBILE COMPONENTS

*1657. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the automobile components which have been manufactured for the first time in India during 1950;

(b) the names of the manufacturers;

(c) the quantity and value of the components so manufactured;

(d) the quantity and value of similar components imported during the year 1950; and

(e) the amount of import duty levied on the latter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 30.]

(d) and (e). The statistics relating to the value and quantity of various automobile components imported into India and the import duty levied on them are not maintained separately.

ORGANISATIONS FOR WELFARE OF LABOURERS

*1658. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the names of organisations working for the welfare of labourers on all-India basis?

(b) What is the number of members under each and the number of unions affiliated to each as on the 31st December, 1950?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). The hon. Member is presumably referring to the four all-India trade union organisations of workers. I lay on the Table a statement showing the number of affiliated unions and the membership of each of the four organisations (i) as claimed by them on the 31st December, 1950 and (ii) as verified by the officers of this Ministry during 1950. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 31.]

SEIZURE OF GOLD AT LONDON AIR PORT

*1659. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four Indians who attempted to export gold through London Airport to India were sent for trial at the (Old) Bailey on the 20th December, 1950 and if so, with what result; and

(b) what is the total worth of gold seized?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Government have no exact information. A report has been called for and the information will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

ARTIFICIAL SILK INDUSTRY

*1660. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indian Tariff Board conducted an enquiry into the claim of the artificial silk industry for protection and if so, what is its conclusion?

(b) What are the annual requirements of the country in artificial silk yarns and what is the country's capacity of production?

(c) What is the total number of powerlooms and handlooms working in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Industry is already protected but the period of protection is due to expire on the 31st March 1951. The Tariff Board's Report on the question of continuance of protection to the industry has recently been received and is under examination.

(b) The annual requirements of the country in artificial silk yarns is about 75 million lbs. and annual production is about 4 million lbs.

(c) There are about 24,000 powerlooms and 1,40,000 handlooms.

EXPORT OF BENGAL COTTON

*1661. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Bengal cotton has been allowed to be exported to foreign countries and if so, what is the quantity exported during 1950?

(b) What are the countries to which they have been exported and the quantity exported to the Dollar areas?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes. The quantity exported during 1950 was 1,78,814 bales.

(b) The countries to which exports were made are:

(1) Belgium.
(2) U.S.A.
(3) U.K.
(4) Germany.
(5) Japan.
(6) Australia.
(7) Switzerland.
(8) Thailand.
(9) Canada.
(10) Denmark.
(11) France.
(12) Italy.
(13) Netherlands.
(14) Sweden.
(15) New Zealand.

The quantity exported to dollar areas (Canada and U.S.A.) was 28,409 bales.

MARKIN CLOTH

*1662. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many yards of Markin cloth of 32" and 42" width have been produced in the Indian Mills during the year 1950-51; and

(b) how many yards of these classes of cloth were allotted for Assam and on what basis during the year 1950-51?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Figures of allotment of markin cloth of 32" and 42" have not been kept. It has, however, been ascertained that the total quantity of markin cloth in various width (normally markin is made in a variety of widths this ranging from 27" to 44") released to Assam from the Ahmedabad and Bombay Selected Mills during March/December 1950 and from Madhya Bharat Mills during November and December 1950 amounted to 48½ bales or 72,750 yards. This does not include markin cloth which Assam's nominees would have purchased from the Bombay and Ahmedabad non-selected mills on purchase authorities issued to them during 1950 and also any quantity of markin cloth which might have moved to Assam through normal trade channels out of the mills' free sale cloth.

STATEMENT

Production in yards of markin cloth of 32" and 42" width during January, 1950 to December, 1950.

S. No.	Region	Production of markin cloth in Yds.	
		32" width	42" width
(1)	Bombay City and others	40,82,911	1,46,17,383½
(2)	Ahmedabad City and others	13,36,140½	6,47,303
(3)	Indore	23,18,141	23,91,544
(4)	Kanpur	23,43,502	13,45,971½
(5)	Coimbatore	5,29,328	28,30,536
		1,06,10,022½	2,18,32,638½

EXCHANGE BANK OF INDIA AND AFRICA

*1664. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the High Court of Bombay has given any decision in the case regarding the loan given by the Reserve Bank of India to the Exchange Bank of India and Africa, which went into liquidation?

(b) If so, what is the decision?

(c) Who was responsible for the grant of loans and whether the procedure as laid down in the Reserve Bank of India Act for granting loans was followed?

(d) What is the loss to the Reserve Bank?

(e) From what account will this loss be met?

(f) What was the position of the Bank, from time to time, when loans were made?

(g) When were the Bank's Accounts last checked by the Reserve Bank?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The parties to the dispute, namely, the Official Liquidator of the Exchange Bank of India, the Reserve Bank of India and the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation have recently come to a compromise, and the terms of the compromise have been sanctioned by the Bombay High Court. According to these terms, the amounts recovered by the Liquidator on the realisation of the assets of the Exchange Bank (including realisations in respect of uncalled capital, but excluding any amounts recovered in misfeasance proceedings) would be applied in the first instance to settlement of claims relating to trust moneys and to trust properties, and next in order, to the general cost of liquidation and the payment of wages to certain classes of employees of the Exchange Bank. 50 per cent. of the balance would be paid to the Reserve Bank of India in satisfaction of its claim, and the remaining 50 per cent. in payment of other charges and claims including not only claims of general creditors but those of any other creditors claiming to be secured creditors, and the cost of petition and misfeasance proceedings. It is not possible at this stage to assess the actual loss that the Reserve Bank would sustain as a result of this compromise. The net loss suffered by the Reserve Bank will be met out of the provision for bad and irrecoverable debts made from its profits for the year 1949-50.

The advances made to the Exchange Bank were sanctioned by the Governor of the Reserve Bank and the procedure laid down in the Reserve Bank of India Act for this purpose was followed. There can be no question of any action being taken against any Reserve Bank authority granting the loan in the absence of negligence or fraud.

The circumstances under which the loans were granted were explained in full detail by Dr. John Matthai to the House on the 22nd March 1950 in connection with the discussions initiated by the hon. Member under rule 46 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business.

Control on Cloth

*1665. **Ch. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the medium and coarse *Dhoties* are being manufactured by Power-looms?

(b) Is it also a fact that the yarn is given to Power-looms at controlled rate?

(c) Is it also a fact that the cloth manufactured by Power-looms has not been controlled?

(d) If the replies to parts (a) to (c) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to impose control on the cloth manufactured by Power-looms and if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, except to the extent of the field reserved for handloom industry.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, there is no control over prices and distribution of power-loom cloth.

(d) During the period 1944 to 1947, a control was exercised over prices of cloth produced by power-loom factories equipped with more than 10 power-looms, but such price control was ineffective and complicated due to the fact that power-loom factories changed their varieties as frequently as a week or 10 days. Moreover the dispersal of the power-loom factories in remote villages and small towns makes prices control very difficult. The question is, however, under consideration.

Agrarian Reforms Committee

*1666. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has given any consideration to the Report of the Agrarian Reforms Committee appointed by the All-India Congress Committee, over which Prof. J. C. Kumarappa presided; and

(b) whether they have come to any conclusions in regard to the recommendations made therein?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The Commission's conclusions will be finalised shortly.

कृषि श्रमिक

*1667 **श्री खापर्डे:** (ए) क्या माननीय श्रम मंत्री भारत के कृषि श्रमिको की सम्पूर्ण संख्या बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

(बी) क्या यह सत्य है कि कृषि श्रमिकों को वर्ष में केवल चार मास ही कार्य करने को मिलता है तथा शेष आठ मास वे वृत्तिहीन रहते हैं ?

Agricultural Labourers

[*1667. **Shri Khaparde:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the number of agricultural labourers in India?

(b) Is it a fact that the agricultural labourers get work for only four months in a year and for remaining eight months they go without any job?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No reliable figure is available. According to an estimate made in 1948, the agricultural labour population for the Indian Union was 34 millions.

(b) Not exactly. The duration of agricultural employment varies from State to State and from region to region and it depends on various factors like systems of cropping, nature of crops raised, etc. But the period of unemployment is, no doubt, long.]

Newsprint and other Paper

105. Shri Ramraj Jajware: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the figures in tons of the manufacture of (i) newsprint; and (ii) other paper in India and how much of the same has to be imported from outside;

(b) whether the sources of raw materials for manufacture of paper are scarce or abundant in this country; and

(c) whether Government are taking any steps to encourage paper-making industry in those areas, where the raw materials are abundant?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) (i) Newsprint is not produced in India.

(ii) Production of paper for the years 1949 and 1950 is given below:

1949—103,194 Tons
1950—108,907 „

To meet the country's requirements in full, approximately the following quantities have to be imported annually:

Newsprint—60,000 tons.
Paper (all varieties)—110,000 tons.

(b) The raw material resources are abundant.

(c) Establishment of paper mills is left to private enterprise. All possible assistance is being rendered by Government for the development of the industry.

Commercial Intelligence

106. Shri Jagannath Das: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how commercial intelligence, like import controls and tariff charges in foreign countries, is brought to the notice of Indian exporters?

(b) Is the information of this nature supplied by the Indian Trade Commissioners up-to-date and full?

(c) Is there any proposal to publish such matters in the Indian Trade Bulletin issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry?

(d) When do Government propose to publish it in Hindi?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Commercial Intelligence like import controls and tariff charges in foreign countries is brought to the notice of Indian exporters through the medium of the "Indian Trade Journal" published weekly by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. The Director General also supplies copies of printed matter on these subjects to the Principal Chambers of Commerce and Trade Association and attends to all enquiries from the business community relating to trade with foreign countries. Commercial Intelligence is also communicated to the Indian businessmen through weekly "Foreign Market Reviews" and the "Monthly Summary Circulars" circulated regularly by the Ministry to all recognised chambers of commerce and trade associations.

(b) The information is supplied regularly by the Indian Trade Representatives abroad in their fortnightly and monthly reports or in special reports on these subjects where necessary.

(c) No, Sir. The Indian Trade Bulletin is intended for businessmen in foreign countries and contains information of commercial importance and objective elucidation of factual review of current economic trends in India.

(d) The Government had a proposal to publish a Hindi edition of the Indian Trade Bulletin but it was shelved owing to financial considerations.

ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

107. Babu Gopinath Singh: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(i) the total number of cases investigated by the Enforcement Directorate during the years 1949 and 1950;

(ii) the number of cases sent to court for trial; and

(iii) the number of cases dropped at the instance of the Ministry or the Local Police?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (i) 1075.

(ii) 295.

(iii) 326 cases were not sent to the Court but were departmentally dealt with.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 23rd February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN.

Shri Muldas Bhudardas Vaishya (Bombay).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

IMPORT OF TRACTORS

***1669. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Minister of Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total number of tractors imported during 1950 and the total number of tractors that are now in use?

(b) What is the cost of tractors imported during the year 1950?

(c) Through what agency or agencies were they imported and were tenders invited?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The total number of tractors imported into India during 1950 was 4676. Out of these, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture imported 240 tractors, all of which are in use. Information with regard to the total number of tractors actually in use in the country is not available.

(b) Rs. 4,81,69,006 out of which the cost of tractors imported by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture was Rs. 1,61,47,224.

(c) Tractors imported on behalf of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture were purchased through the D.G., I &S. after inviting tenders. The rest were imported by commercial agencies.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister has stated that the figures of tractors which are in use are not available. May I know how many tractors belonging to the Government of India are now in use and how many are not in use?

Shri Thirumala Rao: All the tractors of the Government of India are in use now.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir whether any of the tractors imported are idle to-day and whether an enquiry into this matter was suggested by the Food Commissioner and the matter was entrusted to Mr. Kharegat, and if so what was his report?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it relate to a period earlier than 1950?

Shri Sidhva: No, Sir, it relates to tractors imported by the Government of India in 1950.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I make it clear to Mr. Sidhva? Such of these tractors as went out of use are now all renovated and made fit for use and are being used.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether Mr. Kharegat made these remarks, that "both the sets, namely, the 90 tractors bought from Allis Chalmers Tractor Works through Mr. Passabhai Patel and the 90 other tractors purchased from Clectroc Co., through Messrs. William Jacks, gave mechanical troubles frequently and the Ministry should not have purchased them as they were not suited for this soil, that a few should have been tried before placing such large orders, that there is great strain on these tractors and they are therefore likely to wear out shortly?" May I know whether this is correct and if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this matter?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The report has been given due consideration. Some of the tractors are being renovated and most of them have already been renovated.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact that Mr. Kharegat has said that some of the tractors are still remaining idle and

some are not in use constantly but are being sent to the workshops for repairs with the result that the overhead charges have piled up? If so, what has been the expenditure on these repairs?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I would like to have notice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether most of the 1,250 ploughs and pan-breakers bought by the Agricultural Ministry at a cost of about Rs. 21 lakhs and imported by Mr. Passabhai are lying idle and whether Passabhai, on enquiry admitted that this is unsatisfactory, but he was compelled by the Supply Department to use parts which are unsuitable. Is it true that Mr. Kharegat has said that a departmental enquiry on this point by a qualified engineer is called for? And may I know, Sir, what the Agricultural Ministry and the Chief Engineer and the C.T.O. have been doing in this matter and whether an enquiry of the nature suggested by Mr. Kharegat has been instituted?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I submit to you, Sir, that a discussion of Mr. Kharegat's report does not exactly arise out of this question? If the hon. Member wants information about that report, I will supply the information, it is not with me at present. The question was about the number of tractors imported in 1950, and these questions do not relate to that main question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: To what period does the Kharegat Report relate?

Shri Sidhva: It was made in July 1950, Sir. It relates to the period 1949-1950. Mr. Patil, the Food Commissioner, I was told, found that the tractors are very unsatisfactory and so he wanted an enquiry to be made and this enquiry was conducted by Mr. Kharegat, an ex-official of the Agricultural Ministry, who is now retired. Sir, this is a very serious matter and I want to know what steps have been taken by Government in this matter.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I may assure my hon. friend that steps have been taken on the lines suggested by Mr. Kharegat. We have been insisting that a certain percentage of spare parts should also be imported along with the tractors. And also a Central Workshop is being started by Government and there are also private workshops. We have been insisting that there should be regular servicing of these tractors by those who are given the licences to import the tractors, and also to provide additional instruments that are tagged on to the tractors that are being imported. Also a closer watch is being exercised over this matter now since the report of Mr. Kharegat.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether that report may be made available to the House for its information? And also what is the total amount invested on these ploughs? Mr. Kharegat says that Rs. 20 lakhs have been spent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One question at a time, please. Now, what is the cost price of these 180 tractors?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is not 180 tractors. In all, Government spent a sum of Rs. [illegible] on tractors and ploughs. I have the detailed break-up for the different items.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, each plough costs Rs. 25,000 and ...

Shri Thirumala Rao: Each plough does not cost Rs. 25,000, that is fantastic, and.... .....

Shri Sidhva: I mean each tractor.

Shri Thirumala Rao: If he means tractor, that is correct.

Seth Govind Das: Sir, out of the tractors imported in 1950, how many have been working since they came? Or is it the case that most of them have been lying idle and are only working now after repairs?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is a particular season during which a tractor can work and the tractors are kept working during that season.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that most of the time since they came these tractors have been remaining idle and that they have not been working regularly?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): They are now in season.

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are trying to put all the tractors available under the control of the Government to the maximum use possible.

Shri Kesava Rao: Sir, out of the tractors imported, how many are heavy tractors and have they all been put to use or are they lying idle?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Most of them are heavy. Import of tractors of less than 15 H.P. at the Draw Bar and those operated on petrol is completely banned. Therefore tractors above that horse power are generally imported.

Shri T. N. Singh: Out of these tractors that have been imported will the hon. Minister let me know how many are meant for reclamation of land, that is, for deep ploughing and bringing new land into cultivation and how many are meant for ordinary cultivation purposes? Will he also further tell me whether all these reclaimed tracts are in use or have they gone out of action?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, all the machines imported by Government are for reclamation purposes. Imports of a particular kind are being imported by private land-owners to suit their respective conditions.

مسافر : ٹریکٹر - [illegible]
اس وقت ورکنگ آرڈر میں ہیں وہ
کس کس جگہ استعمال ہو رہے ہیں -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** At what places are such tractors being used as are in working order?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are trying to reclaim a large area in the Bhopal area and some other parts of C. P. also.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that smaller type of tractors are now being manufactured in western countries which would be more suitable for assisting small cultivators, and if so, are Government doing anything to import such tractors to enable smaller cultivators also to take up cultivation by tractors.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to a recent demonstration during the last session of the Assembly when one of the firms presented a tractor for Rs. 5,000 and which is used as a smaller unit, to suit all these land-owners. Government also give advice to them.

Shri Karunakara Menon: May I know whether the 160 tractors have been distributed between the States?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise out of this question.

Shri Karunakara Menon: What are the conditions on which they are distributed?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They are not intended to be distributed among the States. They are under the Central Tractor Organization. If any of the States want such, they can be given.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members have a right to stand and try to catch my eye. They have no right to start off.

Shri Chaliha: May I know what is the amount borrowed from the International Monetary Fund for the purchase of these tractors and whether any of the representatives of the International Monetary Fund came to see the work in Gwalior?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for the first part of the question regarding the amount borrowed. As for the second part of the question, the representative of the International Monetary Fund was here recently and saw for himself about the re-organization of the whole Tractor Organization.

Hon. Members: Next ...

Shri Thirumala Rao: [illegible]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have not called the next question. Hon Members must behave with decorum in this House. I least expected that hon. Members will cry out like that.

Thakur Lal Singh: Are Government aware that tractors which are sent to Bhopal frequently go out of order and they are sent again and again for repairs?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I would assure hon. Members that the .....

Shri Rathnaswamy: Has the attention of Government been drawn to the opinion of one Dr. Millar, Adviser to the World Food Organization that India would do better by improving the indigenous technique of agricultural production than by resorting to western methods?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is one of the several advices offered to the people and the Government of India by foreign experts and we are noting every advice.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: For how many months are the tractors remaining idle and what work the staff employed on the tractors do when the tractors remain idle?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already answered many such questions.

Shri V. J. Gupta: How many of these imported heavy tractors are used in Bhopal and how much area is brought under tractor plough?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should we go into such questions as how many have been imported and how many are in use?

Shri Thirumala Rao: About 120 machines are being used.

Shri V. J. Gupta: How much area?

Shri Thirumala Rao: 40,363 acres.

Deccan Airways Plane Crash (Enquiry)

*1670. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Unstarred Question No. 50 on the 15th December, 1950 regarding Deccan Airways Plane crash enquiry and state

what is the result of the legal proceedings taken against the official of the Company?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): It was stated in December last that the question of taking legal proceedings against the official of the Company, responsible for the over-loading, was under consideration. Prosecution has since been launched and the matter is now *sub judice*.

Shri Sidhva: The answer was not very clear. In the last answer to my question it was stated that the crash of this aircraft where all the crews and others were killed was due to the fact that the load carried on the aircraft was excessive which prevented the maintenance of height. The left wing of the aircraft struck a tree 2 miles South of the airport; a crash to the ground and fire followed. The aircraft was extensively damaged and all three members of the crew were killed. The question of taking legal proceedings against the official of the company responsible for the over-loading is under consideration.

My question was what steps have been taken but I could not follow the reply. What I heard was that the matter is *sub judice*. Am I to understand that the official has been prosecuted. If so, I want to know the official by designation and also the company's name.

Shri Kidwai: All I can say is that the persons responsible are being prosecuted.

Shri Sidhva: The Company's officials are prosecuted? Who are prosecuted?

Shri Kidwai: The Company that had hired that plane were responsible for overloading.

Shri Sidhva: Was the Company who is also the owner of this aircraft responsible or not in overloading this aircraft?

Shri Kidwai: The owner was not responsible.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister said the weight of the aircraft is taken before it takes off. Was not this aircraft weighed before it took off?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Every one is weighed and this also is weighed.

Shri Kidwai: Every plane is not weighed. The papers are checked to see that they do not overload.

Shri A. C. Guha: What preventive steps have Government taken so that the aircrafts are not overloaded?

Shri Kidwai: The normal procedure is that the Companies are expected to keep papers giving the correct load.

Shri Sidhva: How many persons are prosecuted?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are the details of prosecution available with the Minister?

Shri Kidwai: All that I can say is that the person responsible is being prosecuted.

Shri Tribhuvan Narain Singh: Under what charges are Government prosecuting?

Shri Kidwai: For overloading.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the Government be pleased to state if this machine was chartered and whether the crew on the machine were the employees of the Airways Company or of the person who was chartering the plane?

Shri Kidwai: I have already replied to that question.

Shri Kamath: In these air crashes where deaths are involved is there any law or does Government propose to sponsor any law or are there any other arrangements for payment of compensation to the dependents of the killed?

Shri Kidwai: The ordinary law usually applies. It is the business of the dependents to claim compensation, but no person is responsible for such a crash.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is the number of people being prosecuted?

Shri Kidwai: That I have not got with me.

PAKISTAN FLAG OVER DAULATABAD FORT

*1671. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Aurangabad (Hyderabad), the Pakistan flag was hoisted over the Daulatabad Fort on the 15th December, 1950?

(b) if so, who flew this flag; and

(c) whether Government have taken any action in this matter?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (c). A green flag without a crescent—and not a Pakistan Flag was hoisted on the Daulatabad Fort by one Nazir Khan on the 15th December, 1950. Nazir Khan was a constable in the Police Department of Hyderabad, who was discharged on the ground of lunacy. He does not belong to any political party. He is of unsound mind and believes himself to be a saint who has renounced the world. He hoisted the flag only as an offering to the *dargah*. In all the circumstances, and especially because he is a lunatic, no action was considered necessary.

Shri Sidhva: Was it established by fact and enquiry that he was a lunatic?

Shri Gopalaswami: The Hyderabad Government made enquiries and came to this finding.

Shri Kamath: Has he been certified a lunatic by a competent authority and subsequently consigned to a mental hospital or a lunatic asylum?

Shri Gopalaswami: He has not been consigned to a mental hospital, but there are, as my hon. friend knows, hundreds of lunatics who roam about without being sent to an asylum.

Dr. M. C. Reddy: Was it on the ground of lunacy that he was discharged from the Police Department or he became a lunatic after being discharged from the Police Department?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think he was discharged on the ground of his being a lunatic.

LOSS OF FOOD GRAINS

*1672. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity in tons of the loss of food grains during the course of their movements by Railways in the years 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): Information relating to the loss of food grains exclusively during transit on rail is not available. But I give the available figures for 1949 and 1950 from the claims made on Railways for loss during transit. In 1949 for a total carriage of 88,62,371 tons, 8576 tons were claimed as loss. In 1950 for a total carriage of 39,35,362 tons, 6991·83 tons were claimed as loss.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the report of the Food Grains Policy Committee showed that the loss in movement of food grains by railways was over 1½ lakh tons annually which amounted to about Rs. 7 crores?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, they computed it at the rate of two per cent. and calculated it at 1½ lakh tons.

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, this question relates to railways and with your permission I would like to say a few words. As soon as we got a copy of this Committee's report, I had the matter fully investigated by all the Railway administrations and we found that the statement was based on a wholly inaccurate estimate and that the actual claims were only a very very small fraction of the figure given.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I make it clear to the House, Sir, with your permission? It is not as though one Department is against the other. The report claimed there was a loss of 1½ lakh tons. My information is based on the report given by the Railway Department that the claims actually put before the Railways were for 8576 tons in 1949 and 6991 tons in 1950. That is the position.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that this loss comes within the two per cent. wastage. May I know whether it is exclusively for loss in movement or it includes also loss in storage in godowns?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is only as regards transport—it does not include loss in godowns.

Shri Sidhva: No, no. I want to know whether the two per cent. is the overall loss in movement as well as in storage in godowns.

Shri Thirumala Rao: That is the percentage computed by this Committee. I am not responsible for that computation.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know what view the Central Government and the State Governments hold in regard to these losses on the railways?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Views and opinions ought not to be asked for.

Shri Kesava Rao: What is the amount paid by the Railways towards compensation for the loss of food grains due to the negligence of the Railways?

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the calendar year 1949 it was Rs. 6,52,000/-. In 1950 it was Rs. 2,85,920/-.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Am I correct in understanding that the losses are two per cent. due to storage and two per cent. due to transport in railways?

Shri Thirumala Rao: You are not correct.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is it a fact that a certain quantity of food grains intended for Tranvancore-Cochin State was directed to some other State and is it a loss or not?

Shri Thirumala Rao: How does it arise?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise.

Shri R. Velayudhan: It is a loss of food grains?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is true but the hon. Member will kindly put a separate question for that.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: The hon. Minister said that he was not responsible for the report. May I know what is the calculation of the Government as to the percentage of loss in transit which occurs every year?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has given figures for these two years.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. The Deputy Minister of Food just now answering a question said, "You are not correct Sir." That is a reflection on you, Sir.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I meant the hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Personally, many times I go wrong.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: In view of the fact that considerable quantities of food grains are imported and transported from one part of the country to another and stored in godowns, is it proper to consider only information from the Railways as to amount of claims as the amount of loss, or are there any records kept showing the quantities of grains that came in and went out from the godowns?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have got here a copy of a long communication sent by the Food and Agriculture Ministry to the State Governments and to our own godown officers and storekeepers on the question of transport. It tells them what extra precautions they should take to prevent this leakage and wastage. It is a long communication. If you permit me I will place it before the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that he wanted to know was whether you depend upon these figures which the Railway gives to you or whether you have means to check up independently.

Shri Thirumala Rao: All these food grains are allotted to State Governments. At the port a certain quantity of food grains is entrained or shipped to the destination of the State Government. When it is received at the other end a check is made and any difference is immediately brought to our notice. Care is taken in loading in wagons. This communication tells them how to fill the wagons leaving some space, how to see that the grains are properly packed and how only wagons with iron floors are to be taken.

LAND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

*1673. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether any Land Development Board has been established in the States of Ajmer and Delhi under the provisions of the Land Development Act of 1948 and if not, what are the reasons?

(b) Have the Government of India any intention to do so now and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). A Land Development Board for the Delhi State was constituted under the Chief Commissioner's notifications Nos. F. 1(22)/49-P & D, dated the 11th November, 1949 and 14th June, 1950.

As regards Ajmer, the question of constituting a Development Board is under consideration.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is the Board still functioning or has it become *functus officio*?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It has not become *functus officio*.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know the reason why these Boards have not been constituted for such a long time in both Ajmer and Delhi?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is under consideration

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: But it has not been functioning.

Shri Thirumala Rao: In regard to Ajmer, a maximum production plan was drawn up by the Government of India, but the Chief Commissioner was not in favour of this plan. The plan was also placed before the Advisory Council and since the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner have not come to an agreed settlement, the thing is in abeyance.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the progress made through the efforts of this Board during the last one year and how much money has been spent on this Board?

An Hon. Member: But is it functioning?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: It is functioning.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Apart from this Board, the Government of India have sanctioned some money for the schemes drawn up by this Board.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Does the hon. Minister mean that the Director and staff of the Board are not drawing their salaries?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for this particular question.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Which is the agency or body that is today doing reclamation of land which was a work to be entrusted to this Board?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Generally the Chief Commissioner is responsible to the Government of India for all these things.

Shri Dwivedi: Have Government any proposal to constitute similar Boards in other Centrally Administered Areas?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think it is under consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But does the Act apply to them?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that when the legislation appointing this Board was passed by this House it was intended that this Board would act as a model for other Provinces, if so, have Government watched the working of this Board during the last one year, if not, why not?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government are awaiting an agreed plan. When the plan is finalised, then there will be similar plans in regard to other States.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What exactly is the plan that the hon. Minister is referring to, Sir? The Board is an independent authority.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Advisory Council is preparing a plan.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: It seems friend has no knowledge about.

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Advisory Council has not been functioning since May 1950 owing to the insistence of a certain number of members on obtaining some assurances from the Chief Commissioner which he was not in a position to give. Pending a final settlement of these apparent differences, the thing is held in abeyance.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: My hon. friend is getting unnecessarily confused. He is referring to Ajmer while I am asking about Delhi where the Board is actually functioning and drawing salaries while doing nothing.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Merely because an hon. Member comes from Delhi, the hon. Minister need not take it that he does not know anything about Ajmer and is referring only to Delhi. Hon. Members must be clear in their own minds as to what they are asking.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: My simple question is.....

Shri Thirumala Rao: I know that whatever the hon. Member is asking is about Delhi. As a large number of schemes were involved, a separate Land Development Commissioner was appointed for the purpose.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Are Government watching the progress of this model Board?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We get periodical reports and if the hon. Member so desires, I shall send a copy to him.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The hon. Minister spoke of a plan. What is that plan? The Act which we passed referred to only Delhi and Ajmer and on the basis of the Land Development Act in these two areas we wanted to extend the same things for the other Centrally Administered Areas. So, we should know what is the plan that the hon. Minister is referring.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He referred to the Ajmer plan.

Shri Thirumala Rao: When my hon. friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta said that he was not referring to Ajmer, I accepted it and I hope the other hon. Members also heard it.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: But what have the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner to do with the constitution and functioning of this Land Development Board which was established under a separate Act in 1945?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are the Advisers to Government.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: But under the Act it was not necessary at all that the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner should come in.

Shri Thirumala Rao: There must be coordination between these various bodies functioning in the same place if results are to be produced.

NATIONALISATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT SERVICES

*1674. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Centrally Administered Areas, excluding the State of Delhi, where the nationalisation of Road Transport Services has been completed or is in progress; and

(b) if so, what will be the amount of investment thereon?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Nationalisation of road transport services has been completed in Himachal Pradesh. It is not in progress in any other Centrally Administered Area but road transport services provided by the former Indian States continue to be operated by Government in the States of Kutch, Bilaspur and Manipur.

(b) Actual expenditure during the year 1949-50, revised estimates for 1950-51 and budget estimates for 1951-52 in respect of Himachal Pradesh Transport Services amount to Rs. 8,64,000, Rs. 2,90,000 and Rs. 4,34,000 respectively.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it the policy of Government not to take up nationalisation of transport services in States other than Delhi and Himachal Pradesh? I am referring to Ajmer and other States.

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. A plan was prepared for Ajmer, but unfortunately because we could not give the necessary amount of capital, it has been held up for the time being.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: The hon. Minister has stated that the road transport services in Himachal Pradesh have been nationalised. May I know whether any compensation has been paid to the Mandi Bus Service, for over thirty buses which were taken over by Government from this Coy?

Shri Santhanam: While the taking over of the assets from most of the operators was effected without serious difficulty, there was some trouble in the case of the Mandi Transport Company. In this company, the Mandi State Government held 552 shares valued at Rs. 24,840 and had advanced to the Company a loan of Rs. 78,120 at 6 per cent. interest recoverable as land revenue. The balance sheet of the Company for the year 1949 showed an accumulated loss of Rs. 23,582-9-9 and reserve funds amounting to Rs. 1,96,372-0-0. But the latter existed on paper only, as there were no corresponding assets in the shape of cash or Government securities. Sir, I do not want to read further, because this Mandi Transport Company was more or less in a semi-insolvent state. It would neither hand over the buses to the Himachal Pradesh Government nor was it in a position to operate. Therefore, for a time the Himachal Pradesh Government had to requisition the buses and pay hire. I now find that a mutual agreement has recently been reached between the Local Administration and the Company for the sale of the assets of the Company and the liquidation of its debt, whereupon the vehicles have been released from attachment.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that at the time of taking over of these buses, the Mandi Transport Company was running more than 32 buses and these buses were taken over one fine morning under the Punjab Public Safety Act?

Shri Santhanam: I do not know all the details, but I am convinced that the taking over was due to the intransigence of the Mandi Transport Company.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that no compensation has so far been paid to any of these bus owners?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, the aggregate sum paid to all the other people comes to Rs. 62,858-0-0. Besides the vehicles, this was the only Administration. I think, which has paid compensation for taking over all the service routes also. For each Part B of a permit a lump sum on the scale of Rs. 1000 in the case of a State carriage permit and Rs. 500 in the case of a public carrier permit was paid. Apart from this lump sum, an additional amount of compensation at the rate of Rs. 100 for each year for which a State carriage permit was utilised was given subject to a maximum of Rs. 500. This scale has been reduced by 25 per cent. in the case of public carrier permits.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: My question is different.

Shri Santhanam: Compensation was paid not only for the vehicles taken, but also for the routes. This is the only instance in which such compensation has been paid.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Does the hon. Minister mean, Sir, that these bus-owners who held shares in the Mandi Transport service, have been paid compensation? Is it not a fact that even to this day no compensation has been paid to any one?

Shri Santhanam: I am speaking of the displaced operators who were willing to come to a settlement. As I stated the Mandi Transport Company, in which the Government itself had a share proved very recalcitrant and they had to take other measures. A final settlement has been reached just now under which some compensation must have been paid for the buses taken.

Dr. Parmar: Is it a fact, Sir, that the licenses of a number of vehicles of other operators were not renewed; nor was any compensation paid to them?

Shri Santhanam: As for the other operators, I have already given the amount of compensation paid.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: My question has not been answered. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is in a position to state today that any of the shareholders of the Mandi Transport Company has been paid any compensation, or any amount by way of consideration, even according to the terms of the settlement which my hon. friend says has been arrived at?

Shri Santhanam: If the hon. Member wants I shall get full details of the agreement.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact Sir, that about thirty-two buses, most of which were new, were allowed to remain in the open ever since they were taken over? Not only were they not utilised, but new buses were imported and no compensation has been paid so far.

Shri Santhanam: The sole responsibility for such a state of affairs lay with the Mandi Transport Company which during all its life never provided a single garage. Neither will the company hand over the buses to Government, nor will it operate the service itself. Before Government could requisition, the buses had to remain in the open. But the whole fault was that of the Mandi Transport Company.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it suggested that after taking over of the buses by Government, the responsibility for keeping them in sheds also remained with the Mandi Transport Company?

Shri Santhanam: The Himachal Pradesh Government could not overnight put up sheds which the Company during many years had not put up.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: After two years are they still allowed to rot in the open?

Shri Dwivedi: Is it a fact that the income which the Government of Vindhya Pradesh is deriving by way of motor tax will be converted into a deficit if the road transport there were to be nationalised?

Shri Santhanam: It seems to be a rather hypothetical question as to what may happen in certain contingent circumstances.

GRANTS TO STATES

*1675. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the amounts sanctioned by the Government of India to the State Governments (State by State) during the year 1950-51 (upto 1st December 1950) as grants on account of (i) seed schemes (ii) irrigation schemes, (iii) Fertilisers and (iv) Miscellaneous heads?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 32.]

Seth Govind Das: As far as these grants are concerned, are they given according to the schemes of different States, their population and the land which they want to bring under cultivation, or in a haphazard way?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There are varieties of grants. Some of these grants are earned in the shape of bonuses by certain State Governments. In regard to certain others where Grow-More-Food campaign is prosecuted with certainty of results, the Central Government gives some money as grants and some money as loans.

Shri Barman: As the statement shows the Government of India gives a large subsidy for fertiliser and manure schemes, have the Government got any machinery either at the Centre or in the States to ascertain whether the fertiliser or chemical manures go to fields producing cereals, or for money crops?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The State Governments are mainly responsible for utilising these grants for the purpose for which they are intended. Periodically our high ranking officials go to these States to verify how far these grants are utilised for the purpose for which they are meant. But it has come to the knowledge of Government that some of these fertilisers which are intended for growing foodgrains are being diverted for growing cash crops. Government have drawn

the attention of the State Governments concerned to see that such diversion does not happen.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it a fact that a portion of the fertilisers supplied to Vindhya Pradesh has been wasted because the *kisans* have not been educated as to how to utilise them?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am afraid I am not in a position to say how far it has been utilised and how far it has been wasted.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that certain irrigation schemes of the Madras Government were dropped due to pressure from the Centre, and if so, what are the reasons?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Centre has not applied any pressure on the Madras Government to drop any of its irrigation schemes.

Shri Kamath: Has the Minister taken note of a recent survey by the Reserve Bank of India wherein it is stated that the money spent on these schemes has been largely wasted, that the "Grow More Food" campaign has been a costly failure and that the production of foodgrains, as compared with the total acreage brought under cultivation has even declined

Shri Thirumala Rao: I presume the hon. Member refers to a press report which has appeared only yesterday with regard to the alleged report of the Reserve Bank. I cannot vouch for the knowledge of the Agents of the Bank. At any rate, I cannot accept it at its face value, unless verified.

Shri Kamath: Does the Minister say that the Press report is incorrect?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He says it is too premature for him to say anything.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total amount of subsidy given to the State of Bihar and the total quantity of seeds and fertilisers distributed by the Government of Bihar?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got the break-up here.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know the total amount of grant advanced for the construction of percolation wells in all the States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of the question.

INDIGENOUS DRUGS

*1676. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for the investigation of indigenous drugs has been taken over by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute;

(b) if so, when and what are the results; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for non-acceptance?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) to (c). No. It has, however, been decided to transfer the scheme from the Medical College, Madras where it is being run since 1940 to the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (Mukteswar) with effect from the 1st April, 1951. At Madras investigation work has been completed so far on 25 plants. A copy of the latest annual progress report issued by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 33.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, what was the reason for the scheme not being transferred from Madras to the Indian Veterinary Institute at Mukteswar in 1950?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said that the investigation in Madras has been completed.

Shri S. C. Samanta: It was settled beforehand that it would be transferred in 1950: I want to know the reason for the delay.

Shri Thirumala Rao: On account of financial stringency it was not possible to give effect to the reorganisation scheme earlier.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the finance was met by the Research Council and it is being so met now also? If so where is the difficulty?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The question of taking over the normal work of the scheme was considered under the reorganisation scheme and it is coming into force from the 1st of April, 1951.

Shri S. C. Samanta: One of the objects of the scheme is to find cheap remedies for the ordinary ailments of live-stock. May I know how far the scheme has progressed in this direction?

Shri Thirumala Rao: About twenty-five plants have been tested on the animals and found how far they are injurious to health or are poisonous, and these experiments are going on.

AGRICULTURAL GOODS (GRADING)

*1677. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by the Government of India for grading and standardisation of agricultural goods;

(b) how much produce was graded in the year 1949-50; and

(c) what are those produces?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937, provides for voluntary grading and standardisation of Agricultural Produce. Rules framed thereunder cover the grading and marking of most of the scheduled commodities under Section 2 of the said Act. In respect of sann hemp and tobacco, however, export has been prohibited under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, unless they are graded in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(b) Various items worth about Rs. 14 crores.

(c) A Statement enumerating the same is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 34.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the charges realized on the Agmark labels—the amount and the value that is supplied in the statement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There are several items. For instance Agmark labels are given on ghee. During 1949-50 89,513 maunds of ghee was graded and the value of that is Rs. 1,91,10,478. I have not got the exact amount of fees realized. I want notice for that.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the penal provisions of the Agricultural Produce Grading and Marketing Act, 1937 are very mild and that the Act itself contains a number of other lacunae? If so, why has the Agricultural Produce Grading and Marketing Act not been amended yet?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I cannot express an opinion on the line suggested by my hon. friend. But if there are defects pointed out we shall try to rectify them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

PRODUCTION OF EDIBLE OILS

*1678. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the production of edible oils in India during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): The estimated production of edible oils in India during 1949-50 was as follows:

(i) Groundnut oil—708,000 tons.

(ii) Rape and mustard oils—229,000 tons.

(iii) Sesamum oil—118,000 tons.

(iv) Linseed oil—102,000 tons.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : किन किन स्टेटस में यह ऐडीबिल आइल लार्ज स्केल में प्रोडयूस किया जाता है ।

[**Shri Balmiki:** What are the States in which this edible oil is produced on a large scale?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: Probably with regard to groundnut oil Madras State is the largest producer. As regards mustard oil U.P. and Bengal are the largest producers. With regard to sesamum oil I want notice; also in regard to linseed oil.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : क्या यह एडिबिल आइल ऐक्सपोर्ट के काम में भी आता है, और अगर आता है तो किन देशों को ऐक्स पोर्ट किया जाता है ।

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is this edible oil used for export purposes also; if so, to what countries is it exported?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the present no export is allowed of these oils except castor oil which is not edible.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know what percentage of the oils is hydrogenated?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know whether coconut oil is considered an edible oil?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is considered edible in certain parts of the country.

Shrimati Velayudhan: Then why is it not included here?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is not included here, but I will get the information.

Shri Shankaraiya: May I know how much of the oils is diverted for industrial purposes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I would like to have notice.

Shri Kamath: In view of the volume of opinion expressed against vanaspati, judging by the petitions received in this House a report on which was circulated to Members—hundreds of thousands of petitions—does Government propose to encourage the production and consumption of edible oils as against vanaspati?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is a hypothetical question. It is a separate policy that is followed in connection with that.

Shri Kamath: What are the steps taken by Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Oils are produced before vanaspati is made. Therefore it does not detract from the production of oil.

Shri Kamath: What steps are taken by Government to encourage the production of vegetable oil and prevent its diversion to vanaspati?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is another policy.

Poona-Bangalore Mail and Express Trains

***1680. Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what is the capacity of III class passenger compartments in Poona-Bangalore Mail and Poona-Bangalore Express respectively in M.S.M. Railway?

(b) What is the average traffic per day of III Class passengers in Poona-Bangalore Mail and Poona-Bangalore Express respectively?

(c) Have Government received any representations to run an additional train '*Janata* Express' for III class passengers between Poona and Bangalore, to remove the overcrowding in Poona-Bangalore trains?

(d) If so, what do Government propose to do in the matter?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The capacity of III class passenger accommodation in Poona-Bangalore Mail and Poona-Bangalore Express trains varies on different sections, from 160 to 340 and 358 to 436 respectively.

(b) The density of traffic of III class passengers in train at the different more important stations varies from about 120 to 544 and about 270 to 500 respectively, it being within the accommodation available on most of the run.

(c) Yes.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Merger of Vindhya Pradesh

***1681. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is proposed to merge a part or whole of Vindhya Pradesh with some of the States before the next elections?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): The answer is in the negative.

Seth Govind Das: May I know what is the policy of the Government with respect to the size and population of each State?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know of any policy as regards either the size or the population of any State. What exactly he is driving at I am not able to understand, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: To retain a State as a separate unit. If it is too large the policy is to split it into two.

Seth Govind Das: He does not understand...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He understands it. But he says he is not in a position to give an answer and says that nothing has been worked out.

Seth Govind Das: I wanted to know from him whether a State of any size or population is contemplated to be kept permanently and whether it would be self-supporting.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member knows that there are such Provinces as Orissa, etc. Madhya Pradesh is too big a Province.

Seth Govind Das: I am referring to Vindhya Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Anyhow it is hypothetical.

Shri Gopalaswami: So far as Vindhya Pradesh is concerned Government consider that both its size and its population justify its continuing as a separate State.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Akhil Bharat Dehat Sammelan

Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the two days session of the "Akhil Bharat Dehat Sammelan" is proposed to be held in Gandhi Grounds, Delhi on the 24th and 25th February, 1951 and permission to hold it was sought for from Delhi Administration?

(b) Is it a fact that the Delhi Administration has refused to grant the permission and if so, why?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Since the 7th February of this year there is a ban in Delhi on all public meetings except those specifically authorised by the Deputy Commissioner. This ban which had been in existence for nearly three years and had been removed in November 1950, was re-imposed because it was felt on the basis of information in the possession of Government that the proceedings of these meetings would be such as to incite and inflame communal feeling. The application of the Delhi Raj (or Akhilbharat) Dehat Sabha for permission to hold a session of the Dehat Sammelan was considered by the Deputy Commissioner on its merits. As the speeches made under the auspices of the Dehat Sammelan last year at certain meetings held in the State of Delhi were intemperate and as it was announced that after the proposed Conference on the 24th and 25th a procession would be taken to the house of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Commissioner refused to give permission for the Conference to be held in the State of Delhi. The Deputy Commissioner informed the organisers that he had no objection to the Conference being held in the rural areas of Delhi.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Is it a fact that the Deputy Commissioner advised the organisers of the Sammelan to secure the permission of the Delhi Municipal Committee also to hold the meeting on the Gandhi Grounds on the said date?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Because that is also a necessary preliminary, it is quite probable. And it is also probable, as the hon. Member who put the question informed us, that the Delhi Municipal authorities agreed to that but they are only one of the authorities concerned.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Is it also a fact that the main reason which weighed with the Deputy Commissioner was the Sammelan's intention to pursue a resolution requesting the Government that the ownership of houses be conferred upon rent-payers, if they are ready to pay twelve times of the rent?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have nothing to say on the merits of the proposal just read out by the hon. Member, namely that the Dehat Sammelan wanted to express an opinion as to how the ownership of houses in Delhi should be disposed of compulsorily by law. But that is not the reason. That is only a symptom of the manner in which the Dehat Sammelan proposes to work. If the rural area people want to dispose of houses in Delhi and also to talk about rural conditions, it just gives us an indication as to how they are going on. But that is not the reason for the refusal of permission. I have already stated the reason.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: What was the reason which weighed with the Deputy Commissioner to suggest to the organisers of the Sammelan that they may hold their meeting in dehat? If it was a communal one, it should have the same reaction on the dehat also.

Shri Rajagopalachari: There are differences in the relative amount of harm likely to be done. We did not want such feelings to be roused in Delhi City. If the meeting is held in the rural area the rural people may have a different reaction, the commonsense reaction, to such incitement.

Shri Ghule: When the Deputy Commissioner thought it inadvisable to allow this conference to be held in Delhi, why did he ask the organisers to seek the permission of the Municipal Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a preliminary to be satisfied.

Shri Rajagopalachari: It was the hope of the Deputy Commissioner that the municipal authorities would refuse the permission.

Shri Kamath: How many meetings and by which different parties or organisations were held in Delhi between November 1950 when the ban was lifted and February 1951 when the ban was re-imposed?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I do not know the value of the information that is sought. But if notice is given I shall answer the question.

Shri Kamath: I want to know if any action had been taken against any of the persons connected with those meetings either under the ordinary law or the Preventive Detention Act.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He does not know how many meetings have been held.

Shri Kamath: Then why has the ban been re-imposed?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise out of this question.

Seth Govind Das: Is it suggested that the people of cities, particularly of Delhi, have no commonsense?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now proceed to the rest of the business.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ABOLITION OF *Jagirdari* IN RAJASTHAN

*1668. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether Government have considered the Venkatachar Committee report on the abolition of *Jagirdari* in Rajasthan?

(b) If so, have there been any negotiations between the States Ministry and the Landholders Association of Rajasthan in this regard?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The report is still under consideration.

(b) Some preliminary discussions have taken place between the Government of India, the Government of Rajasthan and representatives of *Jagirdars*.

BIJURI-BARUADIT RAILWAY LINE

*1679. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the length and the estimated cost of construction of the proposed Bijuri-Baruadit Railway Line?

(b) How much work has already been done, how much length has been covered so far and what is the amount spent?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The length of a Railway line from Bijuri to Barwadih would be 154·53 miles. The estimated cost of this railway, including 55·64 miles of branch lines to serve the major coalfields is Rs. 16.36 crores approximately.

(b) Earthwork in formation and construction of Bridges in the forty mile section between Barwadih and Sarnadih was commenced and so far about 85 per cent. of earthwork and 50 per cent. of Bridge work has been completed. Up to end of November 1950, the amount spent is Rs. 152·50 lakhs.

IMPORT OF FOOD GRAINS

*1682. **Shri A. B. Gurung:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total import of food from foreign countries during the year 1950; and

(b) the total cost thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). 21.14 lac tons of the approximate C and F value of Rs. 80.05 crores.

FOOD GRAINS SUPPLIES

*1683. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 451 on the 10th August 1950 stating that the average daily number of persons at present getting a part or whole of their food grains supplies direct from Government was 109 millions, and state what is the number and percentage of population of urban area and of rural area of these 109 millions?

(b) What is the number and percentage of people who get whole supply and the number and percentage of people who get part supply?

(c) What is the total quantity and percentage of part grain supply of total food grain supply and the same that of whole supply?

(d) How do the people who get their part supply from Government arrange their remaining supply?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Out of 109 million persons who were getting a part or whole of their foodgrains supplies direct from Government on 30th June 1950, 43 millions or 39·4 per cent. were from Urban and 66 millions or 60·6 per cent from rural areas.

(b) The number of people who got whole supply of foodgrains from Government was 45 millions constituting 41·3 per cent. and the number of those who got part supply was 64 millions constituting 58·7 per cent.

(c) The total quantity of foodgrains supplied by Government from January to June 1950 to those who were only partly dependent on Government supply was 1,351,000 tons forming 41·7 per cent. of the total supply by Government and the quantity supplied to those who were wholly dependent on Government was 1,885,000 tons forming 58·3 per cent. of the total Government supply.

(d) From out of their own production and by purchases in the open market.

SUBSTITUTE FOODSTUFF

*1684. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total quantity and percentage of the production of substitute foodstuff, which is being used in place of cereals as compared with the total production of cereals?

(b) What was the percentage of production before Government conceived the idea of and began propagating the

production and use of these substitutes?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). A statement giving the available information regarding the production of substitute foods and cereals both before and after Government started popularising substitute foods is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 35.] Data regarding the movements during utilization of substitute foods cannot be assessed.

RAILWAY STATIONS (DAMAGE BY EARTHQUAKE)

*1685. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations damaged by the recent earthquake in the Assam Railways;

(b) how many of them have been reconstructed; and

(c) whether the normal running of trains to Saikhowaghat (Assam Railways) has been fully restored?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Ten stations suffered serious damage. Minor damages occurred at a few other stations.

(b) Of the seriously damaged stations, two have since been reconstructed and two have been repaired. One more station is to be reconstructed and the remaining five are to be repaired. The work on these stations is in hand. The stations which suffered minor damages have all been repaired.

(c) The reply is in the affirmative.

SUGAR PRODUCTION

*1687. **Shri Satish Chandra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the extent of loss in sugar production as a result of the strike in sugar mills organised by the U.P. and Bihar *Chini* Mill *Mazdoor* Federation?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): The loss in sugar production as a result of the strike in sugar mills in U.P. is estimated to be about 3 to 4 thousand tons. There was no strike in any of the sugar mills in Bihar.

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*1688. **Shri Ghule:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether there are local Advisory Committees in Scindia State Railways and if not, why not?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): There is no Local Advisory Committee for the Scindia State Railway. Some of the ex-Indian State Railways had no Local Advisory Committees. The question of setting up additional Local Advisory Committees will be taken up after the question of regrouping of Railways has been finalised.

SUBVENTION GRANT TO HYDERABAD

*1689. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Report of the "Economy Committee" of Hyderabad which suggests that the subvention grant to Hyderabad is inadequate and should be increased;

(b) whether there has been any request in this regard by the Government of Hyderabad; and

(c) what action is being proposed in this respect by the Government of India?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes. The hon. Member presumably refers to the calculation of the "Revenue-Gap" under the Financial Integration Agreement with the State.

(b) and (c). All the outstanding points in connection with the implementation of the Financial Integration Agreement have since been settled in consultation with the Hyderabad Government.

WHEAT AND *Jawar* FOR AJMER

*1690. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any complaint from the citizens of Ajmer in respect of the wheat supplied at the ration shops in Ajmer containing a very large admixture of barley and what was the agency employed for inspection and purchase of this wheat from the purchasing centre;

(b) whether it is a fact that the *Jawar* supplied at the ration shops in Ajmer during the months of November and December, 1950, was of a very bad and rotten quality and if so, why the same was purchased and supplied;

(c) whether it is a fact that, in a recent purchase of P.E.P.S.U. wheat for the State of Ajmer, in a lot of approximately 30,000 bags, the Government had to suffer heavy losses due to shortage and inferior quality of gunny bags being used, as the Railway Grainshop authorities of B.B. & C.I. Railway here refused to accept this quantity; and

(d) if so, what was the agency employed for the inspection and purchase of this wheat from the wheat centre in P.E.P.S.U., and whether any action has been taken against the official responsible for this and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Government of India have not received any complaints regarding the quality of the wheat supplied in the rations in Ajmer. Inspection is done by the Inspectors of Ajmer Government.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). It is a fact that in respect of the consignment of wheat from P.E.P.S.U., the bags used were not of first rate quality and that there was shortage of about seven tons in transit.

The wheat was inspected by the Ajmer Government's Inspectors. A claim has been preferred by the Railway Grainshop authorities against the Railway Administration for the shortage in transit, while quality allowance for the bags has been claimed from the P.E.P.S.U. Government in accordance with the usual procedure.

Suits against Rulers of Former Indian States

***1691. Shri Hathi:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications have been received by Government for obtaining their consent to file suits against Rulers of former Indian States, during the period between 15th April 1948 and 31st December 1950; and

(b) in how many cases such consent has been given?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):

(a) 914.

(b) 745.

Integrated Programme of Food Production

***1692. Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Programme of Food Production has already been launched;

(b) the places where it has been introduced; and

(c) the results, if any, achieved so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes, in June, 1950.

(b) All over the country.

(c) The results which will be reflected in the additional production achieved, will be known at the end of the crop year.

Railway Engines (Repairs)

***1693. Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that new railway engines brought from U.S.A. costing Rs. 72 [illegible] lying at Bhusaval in working shed for [illegible] repairs since a year?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for so much delay in getting them repaired?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The correct position is that there are at present four of the new type of railway engines, costing altogether under Rs. 20 lakhs, manufactured in America, at Bhusaval awaiting replacement of certain parts.

(b) The delay in putting these engines back into service is due to the time taken by the manufacturers in supplying these parts.

Concessions for Press Telegrams

***1685. Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what are the present concessions given for press telegrams especially multiple address press telegrams?

(b) What is the income for press telegrams for the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 36.]

(b) Information required is maintained for financial years, and not for calendar years. Revenue receipts from Press telegrams during the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 were Rs. 10,96,613, Rs. 7,54,852 and Rs. 6,32,681 respectively.

Jute and Tea

***1696. Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of jute and tea grown in the State of Assam during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51, till the end of December; and

(b) the total quantity of the above articles exported to outside areas from Assam?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information so far as available are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 37.]

Subsidy paid to Assam

***1697. Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total amount of subsidy granted from the Centre to the State of Assam for (i) Grow More Food and (ii) other agricultural improvements during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Subsidies sanctioned to the Government of Assam for Grow More Food and other Agricultural Improvement Schemes during the period from 1948-49 to 1950-51 (31st January, 1951).

(Figure in lakhs of rupees.)

Year	G.M.F. Schemes	Other Agricultural Improvement Schemes	Total
1948-49	14·91	0·47	15·38
1949-50	21·98	0·84	22·82
1950-51	37·07	0·85	37·92
Total	73·96	2·16	76·12

Relief Loan for Bihar

***1698. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the State Government of Bihar has requested the Government of India for a loan of 10 crores of rupees for relief work in scarcity and drought-affected areas?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): The State Government has requested the Government of India for financial assistance and the matter is under consideration.

Lac Industry

108. Shri Ramraj Jajware: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the present position of lac industry in India?

(b) What are the figures of import and/or export during the last three years?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) It is not possible to furnish precise statistics about the position of lac industry in India as there has been no recent survey.

(b) A statement of imports and exports of lac for the last three years is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Imports and Exports of lac during the period from 1947-48 to 1949-50

Year	Imports	Exports
	(Cwts.)	(Cwts.)
1947-48	2,12,749	5,42,172
1948-49	1,20,144	4,90,623
1949-50	76,349	4,55,304

"Grow More Food" Campaign

109. Babu Gopinath Singh: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what amount has been spent in the Centrally Administered States during the last three years in connection with the cultivation of uncultivated, fallow, forest and undeveloped lands in pursuance of the policy of 'Grow More Food'?

(b) What additional quantities of food grains have been produced by these areas in the last three years?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Expenditure incurred on the cultivation of uncultivated fallow, forests and undeveloped lands in Centrally Administered areas during 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50:

Year	Name of State	Amount spent	Estimated Additional Production (Tons)
		Rs.	
1947-48	Coorg	67,000	275
1948-49	Coorg	93,000	461
1949-50	Coorg	95,000 (a)	N. A.
1949-50	Bhopal	38,605 (a)	6,170

(a) Represents sanctioned expenditure. Figures of actual expenditure not yet available.

N. A.—Not available.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 26th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AMOUNT DUE FROM PAKISTAN TO INDIA

*1702. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to reply to starred question No. 149 asked on 4th February, 1949 and state if the net amount due from Pakistan to India under the Agreement entered into at the time of Partition has now been determined?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No, Sir. The exact amount of debt can be determined only after the accounts of the pre-partition period are closed, the transfer of stores between the two countries has been completed, the actuarial value of the pensionary liability determined and certain outstanding points such as the allocation of liability for Cash Certificates transferred after the Partition have been settled.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that it is not possible to state what will be the amount. May I draw his attention to a question that you put on the 4th February 1949, namely,

> "Will the hon. Minister of Finance be pleased to state what is the net amount due from Pakistan after adjustment of all inter-Government claims?

to which the answer was--

> "It will be some time before the exact amount could be determined, but it is likely to be between Rs. 250 and 350 crores."

In reply to supplementaries, it was stated that the amount would be paid

in fifty instalments starting from 1952. Now, Sir, since the year 1952 is fast approaching may I know how long it will take for Government to complete their accounts? Have they started the work? What is the position?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The work is being carried on and I am sure it will be completed in time.

Shri Sidhva: Since it is a matter of Rs. 300 crores and if by 1952 our accounts are not ready the instalment will not be forthcoming in that year, may I know at what stage the matter stands and when is it likely that the accounts would be completed?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has replied that the accounts will be completed in time.

Shri Sidhva: Last year also, the same thing was said. I want to know definitely whether we shall get our first instalment in 1952 and whether our accounts would be completed by that time

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: If we do not get our instalment, it won't be for lack of accounts.

Shri A. C. Guha: Does the account take into consideration the savings bank accounts also?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes. The value of postal and telegraph assets will be included.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the agreement in regard to this payment is in writing or is a verbal agreement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When it is concluded, you will know.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is very much in writing.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether any date has been fixed within which the accounts should be closed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We expect that the work will be in full swing this hot weather.

Shri Sidhva: In the event of failure to pay the amount within the due date, is there any clause relating to penalty in the agreement?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have not contemplated failure in agreements entered into, because these will be definite engagements.

Shri Sidhva: But is there any penalty clause or not, as in other agreements?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When no failure is contemplated, there is no question of penalty.

Shri Sondhi: In view of the hon. Minister's doubts that even though the accounts may be ready something else may crop up and the amount may not be payable to us, I would like to know what difficulty he envisages.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The hon. Member has loosely paraphrased what I said. I said that if there is a failure it would certainly not be on account of our delaying the completion of the accounts. There may be a hundred and one other reasons.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They may not be willing to pay.

Shri Hussain Imam: What is the rate of interest that is going to be charged for the interim period and whether it is going to be compound interest or it is simply going to be accumulated simple interest?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There has been no interest charged for the interim period. Afterwards, it will carry an interest rate which will be calculated on a certain formula and will be approximately 3 per cent.

REDUCTION OF BANKING FACILITIES IN BOMBAY

*1703. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether Government have received a representation from the Stock Exchange, Bombay, in connection with the recent curtailment of banking hours in Bombay?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Yes, Sir. The Stock Exchange Association has represented that the curtailment of business hours of banks, which has resulted from the Award of the All India Industrial Tribunal (Bank Disputes), has been causing hardship and inconvenience to businessmen and public.

Shri Sidhva: Do Government intend to take this matter into consideration and see that the hours are revised?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: In consultation with the Reserve Bank we are considering this question very actively and we hope to be able to reach a decision shortly.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact that on account of this curtailment of business hours cheques presented at the counters in the various banks on a Friday before 11.45 A.M. are not cashed until the following Monday, and if that is so, may I know who bears the interest?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is a fact: at least, it is part of the complaints represented to us. There is only one party which can bear that loss and that is the party which presents the cheque.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the matter is under active consideration. May I have some idea as to when the decision is likely to be reached?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I hope very shortly, Sir. I do believe that this matter requires very serious attention.

Shri Sondhi: Has it come to the knowledge of the Government that cheques presented after 10.15 A.M. are not accepted by the banks for encashment for that very day.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is only one clearing now on week days and no clearing on Saturdays and it is possible that that does happen.

Shri Sondhi: Cheques presented after 10.15 A.M. to the local banks who are members of the Clearing Banks' Association are not accepted. The banks put the seal "Received too late".

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I cannot say offhand whether it is exactly 10-15 A.M., but it is a fact that the time available to the public has been very much restricted.

Shri B. Das: Is it a fact that the arbitration awards of labour tribunals and the agitation of the Bank Employees' Associations compelled the banks to shorten their working hours?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is very true. It is not the fault of the banks.

MINERALOGICAL INSTITUTE AT HIRAKUD

*1704. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India propose to set up a Mineralogical Institute at Hirakud (Orissa) to carry on research on mineral problems?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): No, Sir.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that Mr. John Van N. Dorr, an American Geologist, was deputed by the Government of India to survey the vast mineralogical potentialities of Orissa?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Mr. John Van N. Dorr, an American Geologist did survey Orissa and he gave us a report. On the basis of that, Mr. B. Das did recommend that A Mineralogical Institute be established in Orissa. But as we have already got three Institutes, the Fuel Research Institute at Dhanbad, the National Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur and the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute at Calcutta, it was decided that another Institute in Orissa was not necessary.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it not a fact that Jamshedpur and Calcutta are not in Orissa and are far away? Why was it considered that an institute in Orissa was not necessary?

Shri Sri Prakasa: We cannot have institutes everywhere. We have already eleven institutes and they are costing quite a lot of money. I am sure the House will not want to add to the number unnecessarily.

Shri B. Das: Is not one of the points urged by me in the Standing Committee of the late-lamented Ministry of Works, Mines and Power, that there should be a Mineralogical Institute to assist survey and development of the minerals all over Orissa State?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The hon. Member did put this point before the Standing Committee. But it was decided that the works that the hon. Member wanted done in Orissa could be equally well done in the three Institutes the names of which I have given.

Shri B. Das: Has the Government of India, since the resolution was moved by me in the Standing Committee, formulated any proposal to encourage mineral research in Hirakud area?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not answer that question fully, because I have not got all the facts. But I understand that there is some branch of our institutes working in Orissa.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has the Government of India any proposal under consideration to establish a poly-technical institute in Hirakud?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That question does not arise.

CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE

*1705. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Central Board of Revenue;

(b) the number of appeals preferred by assessees against the decision of Income-tax Officers in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the number of cases decided in favour of the appellants, rejected and pending with the Central Board of Revenue during the above period; and

(d) the average time taken in deciding each appeal?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The Central Board of Revenue is the administrative head of the Income-tax, Customs, Central Excise and Opium Departments. On the Income-tax side, it discharges on behalf of the Central Government such functions of the Central Government as may have been delegated under the orders for the time being in force. Under the Income-tax Act, the functions of the Board are—

(i) to make rules for the purpose of the Income-tax Act and in particular for the purposes mentioned in Section 59 of the Act.

(ii) to issue orders, instructions and directions to the Income-tax Department under Section 5.

(iii) to define the jurisdiction of Commissioners, Appellate Assistant Commissioners and in certain cases, the jurisdiction of Inspecting Assistant Commissioners and Income-tax Officers under section 5.

(iv) to accord approval to Superannuation Funds under chapter IXA of the Income-tax Act.

(v) to decide appeals against orders of the Commissioners of Income-tax refusing to recognise a provident fund, or disqualifying an Income-tax practitioner from appearing on behalf of an assessee, *vide* Sections 58B and 61 (3).

(b) No appeals lie to the Central Board of Revenue against any decision of an Income-tax Officer.

(c) and (d). In view of the reply to (b), (c) and (d) do not arise.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Part (b) of the question does not say whether appeal lies to the Central Board or not, but how many appeals are pending in 1948, 1949 and 1950 on the decision of Income-tax Commissioners?

Shri Tyagi: It was beyond me to collect the statistics; that will take time. I never knew whether this question will crop up under this question.

If my hon. friend means which cases are referred to the Board in appeal, then the answer is that the Board decides appeals against orders of the Commissioners of Income-tax

refusing to recognise a provident fund, or disqualifying an income-tax practitioner from appearing on behalf of an assessee.

Shri Kamath: Judging by the figures, approximate or accurate, that may be available, with reference to part (a) of the question during the last three or three and a half years, has the Government been increasingly benefiting from opium?

Shri Tyagi: Opium question will be coming presently.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether it is a fact that more and more appeals are coming to the Board because of the fact that income-tax officers do not take proper decisions?

Shri Tyagi: More and more cases come up because more and more people are going to be roped in.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Arising out of answer to part (b) of the question, may I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal before Government to amend the Income-tax Act so as to make the Central Board of Revenue the highest Tribunal.

Shri Tyagi: The present procedure is working quite smoothly.

Shri Hussain Imam: In view of the fact that part (b) of the question did not refer to appeals to the Central Board, will the hon. Minister please collect the figures and lay them on the Table of the House?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question relates only to the Central Board of Revenue and its functions. Therefore, in its context the question relates only to appeals to the Central Board.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether the Central Board of Revenue does exercise any control in order to check vexatious assessments being made by income-tax officials?

Shri Tyagi: When representations are made it does exercise its functions.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What is the method and machinery for that control, if any?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The whole thing is regulated by an Act.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY

*1706. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central Institute of Psychology has been started either independently or as an adjunct of the Central Institute of Education;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, when it is likely to be started?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes. It is at present an adjunct to the Central Institute of Education, as the Psychology Wing of the Institute.

(b) Since October, 1950.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: How many departments are there in the Institute and what are they?

Shri Kidwai: The question only related to Psychology and the answer has been given to that. If the hon. Member wants more information he may table another question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Has the Report of the Committee of Experts set up for drawing up a comprehensive scheme for the Institute been published?

Shri Kidwai: I require notice for that.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many Career Masters and Testing Officers have been or will be trained?

Shri Kidwai: This was not a question regarding training. It wanted information whether any Institute had been established and I said 'yes'.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is there any proposal to assist the institutes of Psychology existing in the States in order to encourage them to carry on their very useful work?

Shri Kidwai: This is the first attempt to establish an Institute like this, and even the staff has not been completely recruited. After it has been established, the question that the hon. Member has put will arise.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that an Institute of Psychology is already operating in the Province of Bihar, at Patna?

Shri Kidwai: Bihar has got many things.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not a Central Institute.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether in the Central Institute of Education, Psychology is taught as a separate subject—either as an optional or a compulsory subject?

Shri Kidwai: I may inform my hon. friend that Psychology is taught in every University and College.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Was any scholar sent abroad so as to be able to take charge of the Institute in future?

Shri Kidwai: No selection of any particular scholar has been made, but scholars are sent abroad every year to study Psychology as well as other subjects.

POLICE INSPECTORS

*1707. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) how many candidates were selected for the training of police inspectors in the Centrally Administered Areas during 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) how many of these were Harijans?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Direct selection for the post of Police Inspector is not made in Ajmer or Coorg; nor in Delhi which borrows all its Inspectors from the Punjab.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What are the grounds, generally speaking, on which Scheduled Caste candidates are disqualified?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think that there is any special disqualification.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have not made any investigation of this subject. The question here relates to direct selection for the post of Police Inspectors in Ajmer, Coorg and Delhi.

Shri Rathnaswamy: It arises out of part (b) of the question as to how many of these were Harijans.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Since direct selection for the post of Police Inspectors is not made in Ajmer and Coorg, and Delhi borrows all its Inspectors from the Punjab, (b) does not at all arise.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether there is any intention on the part of Government to introduce an independent cadre of police services for the Centrally Administered Areas?

Shri Rajagopalachari: We are at present satisfied with the recruitment of trained officers from the Punjab.

Shri Sonavane: Has the percentage that is reserved for the Scheduled Castes in the services not been maintained in the Centrally Administered Areas?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think we are going far away out of the question.

Shri Sonavane: Sir, part (b) is there which says as to how many were Harijans. I want to know whether the percentage that is reserved is maintained.

Shri Rajagopalachari: May I explain again that the question was whether Police Inspectors were directly recruited and trained in the Centrally Administered Areas? None at all. Therefore, there can be no Harijans or Brahmins in it.

o

OPIUM

*1708. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise opium production in the country during 1950-51; and

(b) what steps are taken to check inter-State smuggling of this drug?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) Figures of production of opium during the year 1950-51 are not yet available.

May I add here that the opium year starts from 1st October to 30th September? Therefore, the present year, 1950-51, which my hon. friend means is still current and opium is in the process of being collected.

(b) The checking of inter-State smuggling of opium is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The penalty has been provided in section 9 of the Opium Act, 1878 (I of 1878), and the various State Governments have officers in their Excise, Police, Revenue Departments, who are competent to exercise powers of entry, seizure, detention, search and arrest under section 14 of the Act. The Government of India, on their part, render some assistance to the State Governments in their anti-smuggling activities, through a Central Investigation Bureau, which has been set up as a part of the office of the Narcotics Commissioner to the Government of India to collect and collate information about smuggling of opium and to co-ordinate the preventive activities of the State authorities concerned.

श्री कन्हैयालाल बालमीकि: क्या माननीय मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अफीम की पैदावार को कम करने के और भी कोई कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state if any other steps are being taken to reduce the production of opium?]

श्री त्यागी: मेरी बदकिस्मती है कि मेरे चीफ ने मुझे अफीम देदी है।

[Shri Tyagi: It is my ill luck that my Chief has doped me.]

Shri Sidhva: Then the answers also will be unreliable, Sir.

श्री त्यागी: गवर्नमेंट की नीति अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फैसलों के अनुसार अफीम का प्रसार करने की नहीं है।

[Shri Tyagi: In keeping with international conventions it is the policy of the Government not to encourage the production of opium.]

Shri Kamath: With regard to the inter-State smuggling referred to in part (b), is there smuggling on a large scale from the States to the Centre, I mean, Centrally Administered Areas or *vice versa*?

Shri Tyagi: I have no exact information about the quantity of opium smuggled between State and State.

Shri Gautam: Which States are the biggest smugglers in opium?

Sir, have you ruled out my question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member gave the answer himself.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government of India to produce opium for medicinal purposes only, and, if so, may I know what was the production last year as compared with this year? Is it decreasing or increasing?

Shri Tyagi: I can give the figures. Last year, that is 1949-50, it was 5.916 maunds and the year before it was 9,884 maunds.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Which State is the largest producer of opium, may I know?

Shri Tyagi: The largest producer is Uttar Pradesh with 3,216 maunds.

Shri Sonavane: Which State is the largest consumer of opium and which State in India consumes the minimum?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, the question pertains to production and not to consumption of opium.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Out of the total quantity of opium produced last year may I know how much was used for medicinal purposes and how much for opium eaters?

Shri Tyagi: I have no such information today.

CONFERENCES HELD BY MINISTRIES

*1709. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of conferences and official committees each Ministry has held or constituted and the expenditure incurred on this by each Ministry either by way of travelling expenditure or daily allowances in the year 1950?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know how long it will take for this information to be collected?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the object of putting such questions? As early as possible.

Prof. Ranga: May I know whether any instruction has been sent round to various Ministries as well as commodity committees that they should reduce the number of their conferences and meetings and thus bring about economy?

Shri Tyagi: Yes.

LAKSHMI NARAYAN TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

*1710. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether there is any specific rule restricting the number of non-Hindus to the Lakshmi Narayan Technological Institute to which the Government of India are giving a grant now?

(b) How many students in the Institution are Hindus and how many non-Hindus?

(c) Out of the Hindus, how many are from the scheduled castes and tribes?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Prior to the giving of grants by Central Government, in accordance with the provisions of the bequest of late R. B. D. Lakshminarayan, admission to the Lakshminarayan Institute of Technology, Nagpur was restricted only to the Hindus of the State. As a sequel to the grants given by the Central Government the Nagpur University authorities have agreed to throw open 30 per cent. of the seats in the first year to applicants from other States, irrespective of their caste or community.

(b) The number of Hindu students on roll is thirty-two and that of non-Hindu students is nil.

(c) None of the Hindu students is from the scheduled castes or tribes.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government have given any grant to this Institute and if so, whether it has imposed any condition on the admission of non-Hindu students in this Institute?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, the grant was given on that condition. The restrictions were that the Hindu students from Madhya Pradesh alone will be admitted. Now it has been agreed by the University that 30 per cent. of the admissions will be from outside the State and they can be of any caste or creed. Now there is no restriction on them.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know if any non-Hindu student is now studying in that Institute, because the Government has already given a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs?

Shri Kidwai: Will the hon. Member please repeat the question?

Shri R. Velayudhan: According to Government of India's instructions, may I know whether any non-Hindu student has been admitted in that Institute this year?

Shri Kidwai: Not yet.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I ask whether any Scheduled Caste student has been admitted in that Institute?

Shri Kidwai: No.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether any application was made by any non-Hindu or Scheduled Caste student after the grant was made and if so, was any such application rejected?

Shri Kidwai: No application was made in 1950. Only one Non-Hindu applied in 1949 but till then the University had not accepted that condition.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if it is a fact that this policy of insisting on the admission of all people in every institution to which any grant is made by the Government of India is being enforced with regard to every institution?

Shri Kidwai: Yes.

Dr. M. V. Gangandhara Siva: May I know whether any committee has been instituted or on what basis are the students selected for those institutions?

Shri Kidwai: The selection will be made on the merits of the applicant.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to Article 29(2) which says: "No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them." May I ask whether there is no reservation in this?

Shri Kidwai: That is why the Government of India after giving this grant made them agree to their conditions.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether it is the policy of Government to allow caste, creed or colour distinctions in the admission of students in any of the educational institutions in India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise. They cannot do so.

Shri Hussain Imam: In view of the commitment, what steps have the Government taken to see that non-Hindu students are admitted?

Shri Kidwai: They have made the University accept this condition.

Shri Sonavane: Is it the policy of Government or of that institution to shut out Scheduled Caste students merely and always on the pretext of merit?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a hypothetical question. Next question.

CENTRAL LOAN TO NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

*1711. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central loan granted to New Delhi Municipal Committee for capital works in the year 1950-51 and 1951-52; and

(b) on what items the expenditure has been and will be made?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 2.]

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know what is the amount of loan asked by the New Delhi Municipal Committee Administration in the respective two years as against the loans granted?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Their request was of course for a very much bigger sum than has been granted. For 1951-52 they asked for Rs. 28 lakhs and Rs. 7 lakhs has been granted.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the Rs. 7 lakh capital loan which has been granted in 1950-51 has not yet been paid to the Committee and the Committee has made a request for its payment?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That is not the case, Sir. The Committee arranges with their own local Finance as to when it has to be paid. They always arrange for it to be paid at the end of the year. There is no question of payment being withheld.

Shri Sondhi: The hon. Minister stated that a certain amount has been granted for 1951-52. We have not yet passed the Budget. How can it be sanctioned?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I may say that it has been budgetted.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I ask if any loans have been granted to the Delhi Municipality also for the period?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have not got that information with me today.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order, if not of privilege, may I ask if any item that has been budgetted can be announced in the House in advance of the Budget being presented to the House?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that the hon. Minister means is that she has made a recommendation.

Shri Kamath: The hon. Minister did not say that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is my duty to interpret and see that there is no misunderstanding in the House.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The statement attached to the answer gives detailed estimates of the items covering 14 items as against the sum ear-marked in the budget. I want to know if we can make budget estimates before the budget is passed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like to clear some of the doubts of hon. Members. They know it very well but I am only reminding them of what is happening. When the Standing Committees were constituted, I as one of the hon. Members said that all budgets relating to particular Ministries must be placed before the Standing Committees, so that they may look into the matter and then it may be sent to the Standing Finance Committee. Then with their approval they could come up before the House and later on we will scrutinize them in greater detail in the Estimates Committee. Why should hon. Members forget their own rights and duties?

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: We are sorry to hear that it is not done.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are a number of remedies open to the hon. Member and he ought not to quarrel with the Hon. Minister if she gives an opinion.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister is reading a newspaper.

Shri Kala Venkatarao: Can anything be exploded in this House including a myth?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not know if the hon. Minister is reading a newspaper. Possibly it is with reference to any particular question.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): It is only the Finance Minister who knows precisely what budget provisions have been made.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The other Ministers know the recommendations.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They only know the recommendations but only the Finance Minister can precisely answer this question.

Artificial Rice

***1712. Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether there is any plan for the manufacture of what is known as "Artificial Rice" on a commercial scale?

(b) Has any State Government come forward to take advantage of this discovery?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes, Sir. A demonstration plant capable of producing about 3 cwt. of artificial rice per day has been set up and plans for setting up a commercial plant, capable of producing 5 to 7 tons per day are under consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Travancore-Cochin Government have shown interest in the scheme for the manufacture of artificial rice.

Shri Alexander: May I know what is the composition of this rice, whether it has been tested for nutritional values and if so, how it has been tested?

Shri Sri Prakasa: This is a processed product containing tapioca flour and specially prepared groundnut cake as the main ingredients. It is fortified with extra calcium.

Shri Alexander: I wanted to know whether it has been tested as to the nutritional value and if so, how it was tested?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has assumed that it has been tested and wants all State Governments to take advantage of this discovery. Why do you go back to the question of testing?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I might also add to what you have so kindly said, that this synthetic rice has a slightly higher calorific value and is richer in vitamins than the average milled rice. Its growth producing value is also found to be higher than that of rice.

Shri Alexander: What will be the average price per maund of this rice and how does it compare with the price of natural rice per maund?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The price of natural rice is anything in the market as we all know to our cost. This artificial rice will, it is hoped, be sold at 2½ annas to three annas per pound.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what precautions are being taken that we may not meet with the same fate as in the case of pre-fabricated houses?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no good comparing the one with the other.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether it is according to any instructions from the Centre that this factory has been started by the Travancore-Cochin Government and whether any grant is paid to the Travancore-Cochin Government for this factory?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Travancore Municipal Corporation held a demonstration in the All-India Exhibition that was organised in Trivandrum. Over a lakh of people visited that place and found that the experiment was successful.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know if on the direction or initiative of the Centre this factory has been opened in Travancore, and if the Centre is subsidising or giving any grants to that.

Shri Sri Prakasa: So far as I know, no factory has yet been opened. Experiments have taken place and the plant that was first exhibited in Travancore itself has now been transferred to Mysore where further experiments are taking place.

Prof. Ranga: Is it our own experiment, or have any experiments been made in other countries and found successful? How much money is proposed to be spent on this?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not say what has been done in other countries. Experiments in rice are important for us because a large number of our people take rice. It is but right that the initiative should be taken by us. There has been no appreciable expenditure incurred so far.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that the machinery required for this is a very simple one and not very expensive and so the question of wasting public money does not arise?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That is so, Sir, because I find that a small plant that can produce 3 to 4 cwt. per day can be set up at a cost of Rs. 7,000, and the machinery on which we carry on this investigation has been produced entirely by ourselves.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: What is the shape of this artificial rice, and what precautions have been taken by Government so that this may not be mixed with natural rice?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let it come into existence; there is time enough for adulteration.

Shri Hathi: What is the percentage of starch that this artificial rice will contain?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Tapioca itself yields about three times as much starchy food as the grains. I believe in its finished product also, it will keep the proportion mentioned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Alexander: May I ask one more question, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Enough has been asked about artificial rice. Next question.

Deshmukh Economy Plan

***1713. Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to a report published in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 13th January 1951 and state whether the "Deshmukh Economy Plan" referred to therein has the approval of the National Planning Commission?

(b) Has the Commission advised the State Governments to take similar steps for effecting economy in their administrative set up?

(c) What is the number of persons likely to be thrown out of employment as a result of the Central Government's economy plans?

(d) Have any proposals come up for consideration for giving alternative employment to such persons?

(e) How are the savings, so made, going to be utilised?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) It is presumed

the reference is to certain proposals for economy which came from the Finance Ministry and which were recently considered by Government. The Planning Commission is not directly concerned with the details of such economy proposals although of course the general objective aimed at has their approval.

(b) No and it is not their province to give such advice.

(c) and (d). No final decision has yet been reached on the economy proposals. I am, therefore, unable to give any such details at this stage as are asked for.

I have already mentioned the position in regard to alternative employment of retrenched persons and a statement outlining the Government's policy on the subject was laid on the Table of the House on 22nd November 1950.

(e) As the object of these savings is to reduce the expenditure at present incurred, the question of utilising them otherwise does not arise. The savings will help to secure a better balance in the budget.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know what will be the total amount of saving made because of this plan?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Final decision on some of the economy proposals has yet to be taken and I request the House to await the final decision before we can give the quantum or discuss the merits. I have already on the 21st February given some details as to how much is saved.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know why economy is not being made in the case of big salaried personnel, particularly when the Congress stand is not in favour of big salaries?

Shri Rajagopalachari: We cannot suddenly lower or raise the salaries. We have to follow certain lines of action which hon. Members are quite aware of. Then, here was a question of economy and not cutting down salaries.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether this economy plan is different from the retrenchment plan that you stated the other day and if the same, why are they not taken together?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The original question that was put, hon. Members will kindly read, was with reference to the Deshmukh Economy Plan. There is no such plan known by that name. But, instead of giving a negative answer, I have assumed that the question was with reference to the recent economy proposals which came from the Finance Ministry and which are being considered by the Government, and partly disposed of and partly remaining to be disposed of.

Shri Kamath: Sir, in view of the fact that some months ago the newspapers reported what was then called the "Ayyangar Economy Plan", may I know how many rival economy plans are there before Government to-day?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There are many titles given by newspapers according to their tastes and according to the requirements of their subscribers. But the many plans may result in economy. Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar's Report was with reference to organisation. The Finance Ministry's proposals are with reference to economy. The results may sometimes overlap.

Shri Dwivedi: Sir, what are the proposals originally incorporated in the economy plan and which are now dropped?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There is no such thing as an "Economy Plan". There were proposals for economy about which I have already answered.

Shri Dwivedi: Which of those proposals have now been dropped?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They have not been dropped.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have said that some proposals have been modified and accepted. Other proposals are being considered. There is no question of dropping.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I know if the Ayyangar proposals have been attempted to be dove-tailed into the Deshmukh proposals?

Shri Rajagopalachari: We are using loose terminology. I would like not to answer questions shaped in that manner.

Shri Kamath: Sir, on a point of order, "dove-tailing" is not loose terminology, and.....

Shri Rajagopalachari: We are referring to this plan and that plan. I have already said the Finance Ministry has made certain proposals with reference to producing economy. The suggestions for reorganisation are contained in another set of proposals. Sometimes reorganisation may result in economy, sometimes the opposite. Economy and reorganisation are two different things. If the questions are with reference to the points referred to, namely, economy and reorganisation, I can attempt to answer them. But if they relate to certain proposals

the titles of which are not official titles, my answer may become inaccurate.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, is it proposed to take the House or the Standing Finance Committee into confidence with regard to the economy proposals made by the Finance Ministry?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The economy proposals made by the Finance Ministry will have to be examined from the point of view of economy and administration. If questions of legislation arise, they will be placed before the House.

Shri Hussain Imam: In view of the fact that we have the Estimates Committee's proposals, the Finance Ministry's proposals and the Gopalaswami Ayyangar proposals, is there any effort to correlate them and then come to certain conclusions?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The functions and duty of the Cabinet, Sir, are to co-ordinate all such proposals.

MILITARY-TRAINED PERSONNEL

*1714. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the number of persons trained through the National Cadet Corps, Home Guard and the Territorial Army during the year 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): Separate figures for the Calendar year 1950 are not available. However, the total of all categories trained or under training in the National Cadet Corps is approximately 93,000.

It is not in the public interest to disclose the figures regarding the Territorial Army. The Home Guards are the concern of the State Governments.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: जहां तक होमगार्ड्स का सम्बन्ध है, क्या प्रदेशों की सरकार भारत सरकार के पास कोई रिपोर्ट भेजती है जिसके अनुसार भारत सरकार को यह मालुम होता रहता है कि वहां पर उनका काम किस तरह चल रहा है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** In regard to Home Guards, do State Governments send any reports to the Government of India with a view to apprise them of the progress of their work?]

Major-General Himatsinhji: The information can be gathered from the Home Ministry and I suggest the hon. Member may put a separate question.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बात बतला सकते हैं कि जहां तक होमगार्ड्स का सम्बन्ध है वहां तक उनको किन प्रान्तों में सब से अधिक कामयाबी हुई है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Can the hon. Minister state as to which one of the States has acquitted itself most creditably in so far as the organisation of the Home Guards is concerned?]

Major-General Himatsinhji: The subject of Home Guards comes under the Home Ministry of the State concerned. I cannot say which Home Guards have done best, but I know which province or State has the maximum number.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: जहां तक यह टैरीटोरियल आर्मी का सम्बन्ध है, वहां इसमें जो लोग भरती हुए, उनकी संख्या पहले वर्षों से अधिक है या कम होती जा रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is the number of recruits to the Territorial Army greater this year as compared to the previous years or is it going down?]

Major-General Himatsinhji: Sir, last time when I replied to the question, I said 70 per cent. of the first stage of the target strength was reached. Since then due to propaganda and publicity drive the figure has increased to 76 per cent.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या सरकार को इसके सम्बन्ध में अगले वर्ष के लिये कोई निश्चित योजना है जिसके अनुसार आगे के वर्ष में काम किया जाय और जहां तक होमगार्ड्स का सम्बन्ध है, क्या उसके सम्बन्ध में कोई निश्चित् भारत सरकार की योजना है जो स्टेटों को भेजी गयी है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Have the Government of India any set scheme in this connection for the following year and has any such set scheme relating to the Home Guards been sent to the States?]

Major-General Himatsinhji: We have definite plans, as far as the Territorial Army is concerned. Its progress is in accordance with the availability of equipment and the progress of recruitment. The Home Guards, as I have

already stated, are not the concern of the Defence Department.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is recruitment of military personnel done from the National Cadet Corps?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The territorial army is auxiliary to the main army.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I am asking about the N.C.C.

Major-General Himatsinhji: As far as the N.C.C. is concerned, after the three years' course in the senior division of the N.C.C., i.e., in the University, is finished, they are eligible to go to the Defence Academy for the one year course. If they have qualified with a C class certificate, and being graduates, they will have to do only one year at the I.M.A. instead of four years to become an officer.

Pandit Kunzru: Do the Government of India supply rifles to the Home Guards?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. The Government of India, as in the past, are always prepared to supply rifles and other equipment whenever asked for.

Pandit Kunzru: Are the Home Guards kept on a military footing?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No, Sir, they are auxiliary to the Police.

Pandit Kunzru: Do the Government of India supply rifles to the Police?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, ·303 rifles which are not perhaps completely suitable for the use of the Army.

Pandit Kunzru: Are any other kind of rifles than ·303 given to the Home Guards?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir, I think they are rifles with certain bore larger than ·303 rifles. I do not remember the size at present.

Pandit Kunzru: What is the purpose for which they give these rifles, if the Defence Department have nothing to do with the Home Guards?

Major-General Himatsinhji: We are prepared to help them as much as we can.

Shri Kamath: Without giving the exact number or the actual figures which may not be in the public interest, is the hon. Minister in a position to state whether the drive for enlistment into the Territorial Army has been yielding better results during the last few months, and if so which State has responded best?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The drive has been encouraging and successful. As the hon. Member knows, the State which has been most successful is his own State.

Shri Kamath: Ah! that is good.

Shri Alexander: In view of the present international set-up, do Government propose to make military training in colleges compulsory?

Major-General Himatsinhji: That is a question of policy, Sir.

ADDITIONAL POLICE

***1715. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the additional number of persons recruited in the Delhi Police force to maintain law and order during the year 1950?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): One Superintendent of Police, two Deputy Superintendents of Police, ten Inspectors, 64 Sub-Inspectors, 202 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 279 Head-Constables and 2,130 Foot-Constables.

Seth Govind Das: Sir, after this increase in the number, may I know whether the number of dacoities and thefts in this area decreased?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Sir, the one has nothing to do with the other.

Seth Govind Das: Sir, the force was increased with a view to reduce these crimes of dacoities and thefts. I want to know if as a result of this increase in the force, these crimes have decreased?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Looking after dacoities, investigations and arrests and the like, this work is one of the duties of the Police. The Police in Delhi are not only for the purpose of stopping dacoities.

Seth Govind Das: Sir, with reference to their other duties, I want to know whether the number of traffic accidents has increased or decreased after this recruitment?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There again, Sir, it will be misleading to relate the number of accidents to the number of policemen as a whole. An increase in accidents may be due to several causes. Congestion, carelessness, width of the road and several other items go to make an accident.

Shri Sidhva: What is the function of this increased personnel and . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question hour is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

JETTY BLAZE IN CALCUTTA DOCKS

Shri Dwivedi: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of total loss of in terms of money, property, goods and other valuables as a result of the jetty blaze in Calcutta Docks, which broke out at 1 P.M. on the 17th February 1951;

(b) after how many hours the blaze was brought under control;

(c) the cause of the blaze;

(d) whether any loss of life has occurred; and

(e) the number of persons injured and the nature of their injuries?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The original value of the shed at Garden Reach Jetty and the cranes, lifts and equipment destroyed is Rs. 35 lakhs but the replacement value will be double this amount. An approximate estimate of the value of goods destroyed in the fire is Rs. 60 lakhs.

(b) After 20 hours.

(c) Not yet known. An Enquiry Committee has been appointed consisting of the Traffic Manager, Chief Engineer and Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, to which has been co-opted the Deputy Commissioner of Port Police and the report of the Committee is now awaited.

(d) No.

(e) No one was injured.

Shri Dwivedi: When the fire broke out at about 1 P.M., why were the fire-fighting arrangements delayed so much with the result that the fire could not be brought under control for twenty hours?

Shri Santhanam: The fire was first noticed at 1-30 P.M. on the 17th February and the services of the Calcutta Fire Brigade were immediately requisitioned. By 4-30 P.M. the fire was isolated but it was not brought under control until about 9-30 P.M., because the articles were highly inflammable.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if it is suspected that it was a case of sabotage?

Shri Santhanam: An enquiry committee is sitting and I do not like to anticipate its findings.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the distance between the place where the fire-fighting equipment is located and the place of the blaze?

Shri Santhanam: I am afraid I have no information.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if any loss of private property has been brought to light?

Shri Santhanam: I have already said that the value of the goods destroyed in that jetty is Rs. 60 lakhs.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if there were any watchmen to guard the stores and the properties, particularly when such a huge amount of money was involved?

Shri Santhanam: There must have been watchmen there. At all such places there are watchmen as also Police.

Shri Dwivedi: Have any other steps been taken in this matter?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called Mr. Hussain Imam.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether this jetty was under the Port Commissioner or under the Railways?

Shri Santhanam: Under the Port Commissioner.

Shri Dwivedi: Have any arrests been made so far in this connection?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think any arrests have been made.

Shri Dwivedi: What are the details and description of the Government property reported to have been destroyed as a result of this blaze?

Shri Santhanam: The Government properties lost are the shed, the cranes, lifts and other equipment. The original value of Government property lost was Rs. 35 lakhs and their replacement value will be double that sum.

Shri Kamath: Have Government received any report recently that the Dock Workers' Union or a large chunk of it or at least a major part of it has passed into the hands of Communists?

Shri Santhanam: I think the hon. Member refers to the Seamen's Union and not the Dock Workers' Union.

Shri Kamath: I am referring to the Dock Workers' Union.

Shri Santhanam: There is some amount of Communist infiltration both among the dock workers and among the seamen.

Shri B. K. Das: Is it a fact that there is a dearth of hydrants in the locality and the fire brigade has to take water from the bed of the Ganges which is far away and that was one of the

reasons why so much time was taken for bringing the fire under control?

Shri Santhanam: I would suggest that the hon. Member may await the report of the enquiry committee.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Separation of Judiciary from Executive

***1699. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the names of States in which separation of judiciary from Executive has already been effected?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): Our information is that schemes of separation of the judiciary from the executive are in force throughout the States of Madhya Bharat and Hyderabad, and in certain districts of Madras, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. Some preliminary steps towards the implementation of the principle of separation have, I understand, also been taken by the Government of Bombay.

Local Bodies Finance Enquiry Committee

***1700. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Local Bodies Finance Enquiry Committee has submitted its report to Government; and

(b) if so, which taxes from the Union list have been recommended to be exclusively reserved for the local authorities?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Terminal taxes on goods or passengers carried by railway, sea or air.

Indian Painting

***1701. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government during 1950 to encourage Indian painting and Bharat Natyam; and

(b) whether any financial help has been granted to centres devoted to them?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 3].

Capital issued for Industrial Concerns

***1716. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount of capital issued during 1950 (i) for heavy industrial concerns primarily engaged for production of food; (ii) for promoting such production and (iii) for developing dairies?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (i), (ii) and (iii). The information required is not available.

Broadcasts

***1717. Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state what is the daily and monthly proportion of broadcasts (i) to overseas listeners, and (ii) to home listeners during the last six months?

(b) What are the grounds on which the proportion between the two services, internal and external, is based?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 4].

(b) The quantitative output of programmes in both cases is determined by programme and technical considerations for each area, and not with a view to maintaining any particular ratio between the two types of programmes.

Development Plans

***1718. Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many development plans have been suspended by Government due to lack of funds?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to finance these plans?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No developmental schemes in progress have been abandoned; but suitable adjustments, wherever necessary, are being made in the speed of implementation of the schemes.

(b) Does not arise.

Mercy Petitions

***1719. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mercy-petitions received from the different States as after the 15th August 1947 on behalf of condemned prisoners; and

(b) how many of the petitions were rejected?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) 602 mercy-petitions were received from 15th August 1947 till 31st December 1950.

(b) In 113 cases the sentences were commuted and 489 petitions were rejected. I would add that only those petitions which have been rejected by the State Governments come up for further consideration here.

Transmitter for Gauhati

***1720. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state.

(a) what progress has been made for the establishment of a 10 Kwtt Radio transmitter at Gauhati;

(b) whether it is a fact that the progress has been stopped for want of funds; and

(c) if so, when the work will be undertaken and completed, and the transmitter installed?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The building for housing the transmitter is almost complete. The transmitter and allied stores are on their way to Gauhati *via* Calcutta. The installation of the equipment will be taken up as soon as the equipment arrives at site. Necessary power generating equipment has been ordered through Directorate-General, Supplies and Disposals.

(b) No.

(c) The power generating equipment is expected to be delivered before the end of 1951; the transmitter will then be in operation within a month.

Technical Manpower

***1721. Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry is to be made to find out India's requirements of technical manpower and if so, when;

(b) whether a Committee has been set up for this purpose and if so, of whom; and

(c) whether Government propose to establish a central organisation for the purpose of co-ordination of technical education?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Yes. The Co-ordinating Committee of the All India Council for Technical Education has set up a Sub-Committee to assess the country's requirements of technical manpower during the next 5 years as well as on a long-term basis taking into consideration the estimates made sometime back by the Scientific Manpower Committee in this behalf. The Sub-Committee consists of Mr. G. L. Mehta as Chairman and Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar, Mr. Sri Ram, Mr. H. Gibson and Mr. T. Sivasankar as members.

(c) The All India Council for Technical Education, set up by the Government in 1945, performs advisory functions in regard to co-ordination of technical education. The Council has proposed that it be invested with statutory powers to discharge its functions.

Sending Engineers to Germany

***1722. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether a German Industrialist, who is now in India, has made any proposal to Government to send Engineers to Germany for practical training? If so, what?

(b) Have Government come to any decision in the matter?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Yes. An informal approach has been made but till the scheme is received and its details examined no decision can be taken.

Radio Station, Vijayawada

***1723. Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to improve the Radio Station at Vijayawada in regard to its broadcasting capacity; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to construct permanent Building at Vijayawada or to purchase buildings for it?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Eight Year Plan for Development of Broadcasting envisages a higher power medium wave transmitter of 10/20 K.W. at Vijayawada, but the project can be undertaken only when funds become available.

(b) The construction of All India Radio's own building at Vijayawada is also contemplated in that Plan.

Article 46 of the Constitution

***1724. Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any list of the Weaker Sections of the people has been prepared by Government under Article 46 of the Constitution; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to do so now?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). No. The Constitution does not require that any such list should be prepared as in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, nor is it possible to prepare such a list as the connotation is not precise.

EDUCATION OF EX-SERVICEMEN

*1725. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amounts have been set apart towards the education of ex-servicemen by the Centre;

(b) If so, what are they; and

(c) how many are benefited by these?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The Centre usually sets apart some money towards the education of ex-servicemen and their dependants.

(b) and (c). A statement in this respect is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XII, annexure No. 5.]

REMOVAL OF CASH BY PRINCES

*1726. **Shri Subbiah:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether any restrictions have been placed on the removal of cash, jewels and assets by the Indian Princes to countries outside India and if so what?

(b) What is the amount, either in Jewels, cash or assets taken out of India since August, 1947?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The removal of cash, jewellery and other assets out of India by the Indian Princes is subject to the same restrictions as those imposed on other Indian nationals.

(b) The information is not available.

RESEARCH IN SCIENCE

*1727. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of laboratories and institutes that have been set up in India by Government since 15th August, 1947, under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for research in science, technology and industry;

(b) in which different sciences, technics, and processes research is being conducted at present;

(c) the capital and working expenses per annum of each of the laboratories and institutes;

(d) the percentage of foreign personnel employed in each of the laboratories and institutes; and

(e) the steps that are being taken to attract and train Indian scientists for manning these institutions?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Seven. A statement giving the names of the laboratories is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 6.]

(b) A statement giving the desired information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 7.]

(c) and (d). A statement giving the desired information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 8.]

(e) The junior scientists working in the laboratories are young men with post graduate research experience. To train such personnel, Government of India have instituted a Scheme of Research Training Scholarships for Research in the fundamental Sciences and in Engineering and Technology and have allotted them to Universities and other Research Institutions. The senior posts will be filled either by the young scientists working in the laboratories or with those who have adequate research experience in Research Institutes and Universities.

PROSCRIPTION OF BOOKS

*1728. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any books on politics, Economics, Sociology or religion are proscribed under the orders of the Government of India; and

(b) what is their number and description?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Without accepting the classification proposed by the Hon. Member, I lay on the Table of the House a list of books proscribed under the orders of the Government of India.

STATEMENT

(1) *The Face of Mother India,* by Miss Katherine Mayo,

(2) *Old Soldier Sahib,* by Frank Richards,

(3) *The Land of the Lingam,* by Arther Miles,

(4) *Hindu Heaven,* by Max Wylie.

(5) *Mysterious India,* by Moki Singh,

(6) *Scented Garden,* by Bernnard Stern,

(7) *Behind the Iron Curtain in Kashmir—Neutral Opinion,*

(8) *The Kashmir Dispute through Neutral Eyes,*

(9) *Pakistan-Pas Manzar Wa Pesh Manzar,* by Hameed Anwar, published by Ishait Manzil, Bull Road, Lahore,

(10) *Cease Fire,* by Agha Babar, published by Little Theatre Group, Lahore, and

(11) *Khak Aur Khoon,* by Nazim Hajazi, published by Quami Qutab Khana, Lahore.

AERODROME AT BIRSI

*1729. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about 56 lacs of rupees were required for the construction of an aerodrome at Birsi in Gondia Tahsil (Madhya Pradesh) during war period and it is at present lying unused?

(b) If so, when do Government propose to use it?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). The Gondia air field was constructed in 1943 at a cost of approximately Rs. 54 lacs (including the cost of the technical and domestic accommodation). As this air field was surplus to the requirements of the Air Force and the Civil Aviation Department, it was transferred to the Government of Madhya Pradesh on a care and maintenance basis, that is to say, the State Government undertook the responsibility of maintaining it at their expense, the title to the land, pucca runways etc. continuing to vest in the Central Government. The Government of India also retain unrestricted rights of the use of air field whenever necessary.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS BY FEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRIES

*1730. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether any new scholarships are offered to the Indian students by the Federation of British Industries for undergoing practical technical training in the United Kingdom?

(b) If so, what is the period for which the scholarships are offered?

(c) Do these scholarships include the passage maintenance also?

(d) What is the value of these scholarships?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Two years.

(c) The passage will not be paid by the F.B.I.

(d) £300 per annum per student.

CENTRAL NEWS ORGANISATION

*1731. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the strength of the Central News Organisation of the All India Radio in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) What economy is proposed to be effected in the Central News Organisation in the year 1951-52?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) It is proposed to effect an economy of about Rs. 51,000 in the year 1951-52.

STATEMENT

Sanctioned posts of News Services Division, All India Radio.

	November 1948	November 1949	November 1950
Class I	18	19	20
Class II	116	116	114
Class III	103	105	105
Class IV	92	93	93
TOTAL :	329	333	332

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

*1732. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the number of officers and other staff in the Press Information Bureau of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in the years 1940, 1945 and 1950?

(b) What was the cost of newspapers purchased by the Bureau in 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(c) What share of this was for newspapers in English and what for those in Hindi and other languages?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 9].

PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

*1733. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and what it was in the years 1948 and 1949;

(b) What economy is proposed to be effected in this Division in the year 1951-52 as a part of general Economy Drive; and

(c) What was the income from publications published in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and the total expenditure for the respective years?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The estimate of expenditure proposed for 1951-52 is Rs. 1,88,000 less than the sanctioned grant for 1950-51 and Rs. 4,03,000 less than the sanctioned grant for 1949-50. Possibilities of further economy are being examined.

(c) For the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 attention is invited to my reply to Starred Question No. 1557, dated the 10th April 1950. As regards 1950-51, the final figures of income and expenditure are not yet available.

STATEMENT

Strength of the Publications Division

	Number of post		
	April 1948	April 1949	Present
Class I	21	19	13
Class II	39	27	20
Class III	150	150	173
Class IV	88	104	111
TOTAL	298	300	317

HYDRO-ELECTRIC GENERATION

*1734. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether any scheme for Hydro-electric generation has been chalked out by Government for the Centrally Administered Areas?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to place a statement on the Table of the House regarding the work done so far?

(c) If the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, when do Government propose to start this work?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The Government of India have so far prepared no scheme for generating hydro-electric power for any of the Centrally Administered Areas. Investigations and surveys are, however, in progress in respect of the Harangi Multi-purpose Project in Coorg.

(b) The investigations were started in July, 1949. Hydraulic observations on the Harangi River are being taken. Contour survey of the area commanded and the basin survey are nearing completion.

(c) Does not arise.

KOSI RIVER DAM

110. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether any test has been conducted for Government by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on the construction of Kosi River Dam and if so, with what result?

(b) Has the former Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority visited India to inspect the various multi-purposes projects sponsored by Government?

(c) Has the former Chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission arrived in India at the request of the Government of India to look into the possibility of developing various Indian rivers?

(d) If so, what is the result?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The trial load analysis of the section of the Kosi Dam was carried out by Indian engineers of the CWINC under the guidance and with the assistance of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. As a result of these, certain improvements and economies have been affected in the proposed section of the dam.

(b) to (d). Mr. David E. Lilienthal, formerly Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority and subsequently Chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission is on a private visit to India and seeing one or two river valley projects, laboratories, universities and rural life He has not come

at the request of the Government of India but the Government are extending facilities for the visit. As it is a purely private visit, Government do not expect any report or result.

CANTEEN STORES DEPARTMENT

111. Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) What is the composition of the Canteen Stores Department, India?

(b) Where its branches are and whether there are local boards in those cities where there are branches;

(c) Whether this Department is self-supporting;

(d) What are its earnings and expenditure since the partition, year by year;

(e) Whether it is a fact that, as a measure of economy, the post of administrative officer was abolished in April, 1950; and

(f) Whether it is a fact, that the post was again filled?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The Canteen Stores Department is an organisation under the Ministry of Defence to provide canteen stores to the troops at their numerous locations at the lowest possible rates. The organisation is controlled by a Board of Control with the Minister of Defence as Chairman and a Board of Administration, presided over by the Manager of the Department, with representatives of the Ministry of Finance and of the Quarter Master General.

(b) The Canteen Stores Department has wholesale Depots at Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta, Delhi, Pathankot and Srinagar.

There are no local boards at the above centres with the exception of Bombay where the Head Office of the Department is also located with its Board of Administration.

(c) Yes.

(d) The present Canteen Services came into being with effect from the 1st January 1948.

The position is as follows:

	1.1.48 to 31.3.48
	Rs. A. P.
Gross profit	4,20,343—2—1
Expenditure	3,90,179—7—10
Net profit	30,163—10—3
	1.4.48 to 31.3.49
	Rs. A. P.
Gross profit	21,37,761—4—5
Expenditure	16,08,214—13—3
Net profit	5,29,546—7—2
	1.4.49 to 31.3.50
	Rs A. P.
Gross profit	29,92,380—5—11
Expenditure	20,23,445—5—2
Net profit	9,68,935—0—9

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 27th February, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXPORT OF JUTE GOODS

***1735. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of jute goods exported in the year 1950; and

(b) its price in Indian coin?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 678,284 tons.

(b) Rs. 119·032 crores.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how far the American price was higher than the Indian price?

Shri Mahtab: I have given the figures. The export price and the Indian price.....

Shri Sondhi: He wants the American price.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He has understood him all right. The hon. Member wants to know the difference between the Indian and American prices.

Shri Mahtab: I can lay a statement on the Table giving the prices. The American prices are much higher. The list is a long one which I can read out if desired. If the suggestion is that the American price is much higher than the controlled price here, it is a fact.

Shri A. C. Guha: Taking into account the export duty, what would be the excess amount still left? How far is the gap covered by the export duties and other charges?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry those figures are not available.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is only following the same question differently.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government taken any steps to see that the gap between the Indian and American prices is fully utilised for our dollar reserve?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question was thoroughly discussed when the House had a discussion on the Bill.

Shri A. C. Guha: My point is that even after the imposition of Rs. 1500 export duty, there is a gap.....

Mr. Speaker: That aspect of the question can be the subject matter of argument and not of questions.

Shri V. J. Gupta: What steps have been taken by Government to provide the hessian required by an important industry of *Gur* in Madras State for storage and export?

Shri Mahtab: This is a very important point and complaints from various local industries have been received by Government. We are looking into the matter.....

Mr. Speaker: I think we are entering into an argument.

Shri Hussain Imam: I want to know whether the price that the hon. Minister has given is F.O.B. including the duty or the price of hessian alone without including the duty?

Shri Mahtab: It is the export price without the duty.

Shri Munavalli: What was the total quantity of jute goods produced in 1950?

Mr. Speaker: This has also been answered on another question and it has been covered during the debate too.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, will the hon. Minister be pleased to lay on the Table the statement that he mentioned?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, Sir, I shall be glad to do so.

CENTRAL BOARD FOR UNATTACHED WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF DISPLACED PERSONS

*1737. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have set up a Central Board to look after unattached women and children of displaced persons?

(b) If so, what is the number of such displaced persons who are being looked after?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A Central Advisory Board has recently been set up to advise Government on matters concerning the care and maintenance of displaced unattached women, and the aged and infirm and their dependants and orphan children.

(b) 45,400.

Shri Sidhva: What is the composition of this Board and what will be their functions with respect to the unattached women?

Shri A. P. Jain: Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru is the Chairman of the Board. Mrs. John Matthai has been nominated by the Government of India on the Board.

Shri U. M. Mirchandani, I.C.S., Member, Nominated by the Government of Bombay.

Shrimati Premvati Thapar, Member, Nominated by the Government of Punjab.

Shrimati Purnima Banerji, Member, Nominated by the Government of U. P.

Shri N. R. Malkani, Member, Nominated by the Government of Rajasthan.

Sardar K. L. Budhiraja, Member, Nominated by the Government of PEPSU.

Shrimati Manmohini Sahgal, Member, Nominated by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi.

Shri Nakul Sen, I.C.S., Member Secretary, Nominated by the Government of India.

The functions of the Board will be to advise the Ministry on the following matters:

(1) Scale of rations, clothing and cash doles to be given to the inmates of the homes.

(2) The strength and location of homes.

(3) Policy relating to new admissions in the homes.

(4) Amenities to be provided in the homes.

(5) Uniformity in administration and in the provision of medical, educational and other facilities.

(6) Vocational training for and provision of suitable gainful employment to the inmates.

(7) Coordination of production and marketing.

(8) Dispersal from homes and the grant of necessary financial assistance for the rehabilitation of those displaced.

(9) Transfer of inmates from a home in one State to another.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated the number of the unattached women. I want to know whether they are located at one place or are distributed at various places.

Shri A. P. Jain: They are located in a large number of places, twenty, thirty or more.

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा कर के बतायेंगे कि ऐसी अनअटैच्ड औरतें जो कि आश्रम में दाखिल होना अपनी बेइज्जती समझती हैं उन के रहने के लिये और गुजारे के लिये क्या इन्तजाम किया गया है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state what arrangements have been made for the maintenance of such of these unattached women who regard the admission into these homes inconsistent with their social dignity?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जो कि होम्स में रहना बेइज्जती समझती हैं वह आज खुद रहती हैं। और जो होम्स में दाखिला चाहती हैं, उन्हें वहां दाखिल कर लेते हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The women who think that way, live on their own and those desirous of admission into homes are admitted.]

Shri A. C. Guha: From the list of persons composing this Advisory Board it seems that there are no representatives from West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and also Bihar. Are we to understand that the East Bengal displaced persons are not covered by the Central Board?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is so.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are the Government considering any steps to set up a similar body for the rehabilitation of unattached women from East Bengal?

Shri A. P. Jain: As soon as the position is more stabilised there.

Shri A. C. Guha: Even now is it not a fact that there are a large number of unattached women and children in West Bengal and Assam?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is so.

Shri A. C. Guha: What steps have the Government taken.....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is proceeding with a cross-examination.

گیانی جی- ایس - مسافر: مانذیہ منتری صاحب سے میں دریافت کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جیسا کہ لالہ اچنت رام جی نے کہا بے عزتی کا سوال اگر نہ بھی ہو مگر ان عورتوں کی حالت ایسی ہو کہ وہ آشرم میں نہ رہ سکتی ہوں - جوان لڑکیاں ہوں اور ان کے کوئی کمانے والا نہ ہو - ایسی لڑکیاں جو آشرم میں نہ رہ سکتی ہوں ان کے لئے کیا انتظام کیا جاتا ہے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Even if there be no question of any indignity or disgrace as referred to by Lala Achint Ram, I want to know it from the hon. Minister what arrangements have been made for such unattached women whose position does not permit them to seek admission into these homes? For instance, what arrangements exist for such young girls who have no earning member?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जवान लड़कियां बखुशी आश्रम में रह सकती हैं, वहां आश्रम में तो औरतें ही औरतें रहती हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Young girls can easily live in those homes as there would be nobody else than women.]

लाला अचिंत राम : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जो आश्रम में रहना बेइज्जती समझती हैं और गुजारा नहीं चला सकतीं, उन के लिये क्या गवर्नमेंट सोचती है कि जो रुपया उन के ऊपर आश्रम में खर्च हो उस से कम अलाऊंस उन्हें गुजारे के लिये दे दिया जाय ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** I want to enquire whether Government are considering to give even less than such monetary help as would have, otherwise, been spent on them in case of their joining the homes by way of maintenance allowance to those unattached women who regard admission into these homes disgraceful but at the same time are unable to support themselves.]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं सभवन के अन्दर कई बार बतला चुका हूं कि अलावा वीमन्स होम्स के और दूसरे तरीके भी हैं। मेंटीनेन्स अलाऊंस का एक तरीका है, दूसरा तरीका यह है कि वह किसी ट्रेनिंग सेंटर के अन्दर कुछ काम सीख लें और फिर अपना रोजगार चलायें। लेकिन जिन की हम पूरी जिम्मेदारी लेते हैं, खिलाने की, कपड़े की और रहने की, उस के लिये तो हमारी यही स्कीम है और उन को हम होम्स में ही रखते हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have stated it many times in the House that apart from these women's homes there are other methods also. Maintenance allowance is one such method while the other is that after receiving training in some particular vocation in some training centre they earn their own livelihood. But for those in respect of whom we assume full responsibility of their feeding, clothing and residence, this is the only scheme and we generally keep such women in these homes.]

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the estimated expenditure on the working of this Board?

Shri A. P. Jain: This Board has not started functioning as yet. The Board has been appointed and the necessary staff for this Board will be set up. I am not today in a position to state what will be the expenditure.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total financial liability involved in maintaining all these 45,000 women?

Shri A. P. Jain: Very roughly speaking the average expenditure comes to about Rs. 25 per head per month.

Shri Kesava Rao: *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Shri Kesava Rao: On a point of order, Sir. I want to know whether this microphone is preventing you from seeing me.....

Mr. Speaker: It is no point of order. Hon. Members who are getting up every now and then lead themselves into believing that the microphone is coming in my way. Nothing comes in my way.

WORKMEN PROVIDENT FUND BILL

*1738. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state when Government intend to bring a Bill for provident funds for workers as promised by the Minister when my bill (The Workmen Provident Fund Bill) was presented?

(b) What is the cause of delay?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to the unstarred question No. 67 printed in the Debates of Parliament of the 14th August, 1950 and to the starred question No. 303 on the 23rd November, 1950. The salient features of the proposed legislation were also discussed subsequently at the Labour Ministers' Conference held in January 1951. The matter is still in progress.

Shri Sidhva: What is the cause for the delay in bringing forward this Bill? The hon. Minister, in r ying to the debate when my Bill was presented, had stated that Government will take immediate steps to introduce their own Bill. May I know what is causing the delay in this matter?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Immediate steps were taken and the preliminaries for the preparation of the Bill are being undergone. In the first instance, the proposal was placed before the Indian Labour Conference and the Conference suggested that draft legislation should be prepared. Then a memorandum was prepared and circulated to all the State Governments and their comments were invited. The matter was placed last month before the Labour Ministers' Conference and the Conference has decided that legislation should be undertaken. The concerned Ministries here are being consulted and the legislation will be undertaken as soon as the consultation is over.

Shri Kamath: Has, Sir, the Standing Committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Labour been taken into confidence in this matter? Has the draft Bill been placed before the Standing Committee?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Not yet. That stage has not come as yet.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether this matter was placed before the Tripartite Committee?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I have just now answered that.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is likely that this Bill will be presented to the House in this session?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No, I am afraid not during this session.

INDIA'S TRADE IN 1950.

*1739. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total value of India's trade during the calendar year 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): I place on the Table of the House a statement giving the required information. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 10.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether there is any increase in the trade value of 1950 over the trade value of 1949?

Shri Mahtab: There is considerable increase in the trade value of 1950 (January to November) over the trade values of 1948 and 1949.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total value of the manufactured and raw goods which we exported last year?

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member want the figures separately?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, Sir.

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry separate figures are not available. The total figure is here.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total value of re-exports for last year?

Shri Mahtab: It is given in the statement. It is Rs. 20.02 crores.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What were the dollar earnings of India in 1950 as compared with previous years?

Shri Mahtab: I can give the entire figures if the hon. Member wants information on that. We had a favourable balance of Rs. 14.51 crores during January-November, 1950, as against the adverse balance of Rs. 9.8 crores during the corresponding period of 1949.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the extra value which we paid on our imports due to devaluation?

Shri Mahtab: It is because of devaluation that our trade position has improved.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I want to know how much extra we had to pay on our imports because of devaluation?

Shri Mahtab: Those figures are not available with me here.

SILK INDUSTRY

*1740. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state which States in the Indian Union are the main silk producing areas?

(b) What was the total production of the Indian Union in yardage and value of the silken cloth and yarn during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(c) What is the number of factories engaged in silk industry?

(d) What is their productive capacity and the total annual output in yardage and value?

(e) What facilities and encouragement are given by the Governments of the States or the Government of India for the development of silk industry?

(f) What was the total yardage and value of silken goods and yarn imported into India during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 as also the total yardage and value of silken cloth and yarn exported out of India during these years?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Mysore, Madras, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) By silken yarn, the hon. Member, presumably means raw silk. A statement showing production and value of both silken cloth and raw silk during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 11.]

(c) There are about 400 factories engaged in silk Industry which are producing both silk and art silk fabrics.

(d) The total productive capacity of both silk and art silk fabrics is about 350 million yards per annum. The annual production of pure silk fabrics and their value is given in the statement laid down on the Table of the House.

(e) The Government of India have constituted a Central Silk Board which is looking after the development of the raw silk industry in the country. The Government of India gives grant-in-aid to the Board and financial assistance is given by the Board to the various States on the approved schemes prepared by them for the development of the Sericulture Industry. To safeguard the interests of the indigenous raw silk industry, protection is given by levying a protective import duty and restricting imports to the extent demand cannot be met from indigenous production.

(f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 12.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what portion of the production comes from cottage industry and what from others?

Shri Mahtab: By cottage industry I presume the hon. Member means the handloom industry?

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Yes.

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry separate figures are not available with me here.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the number of cocoons produced in India in three consecutive years?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I cannot give that figure.

Shri Shankaraiya: May I know how many silk-weaving handlooms there are in India?

Shri Mahtab: The figures of handlooms exclusively working on silk are not available, but handlooms generally work both on silk and cotton.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that the production of cocoons is going down in India?

Shri Mahtab: No, it is going up. From the statement placed on the Table the hon. Member will see that production is going up.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: Is the State of Assam one of the silk-producing areas, and, if so, what is the quantity produced in Assam?

Shri Mahtab: I have got the figures year by year but not State-wise. Assam is a silk-producing State.

Shri T. N. Singh: What are the special varieties of silk—superior quality, etc.—which are allowed to be imported, and what is the quality of silk which is most popular for export purposes?

Shri Mahtab: With regard to the normal working of the industry we have to import a large quantity of raw silk from abroad. I am not aware of the qualities and no separate figures also are available.

STAFF FOR CONTROL AND DISTRIBUTION OF CLOTH

*1741. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of staff, gazetted and non-gazetted, temporary and permanent, in the employment of the Government of India in the control and distribution operation of cloth, cement, iron and steel, etc., and the total expenditure incurred by the Government in this concern during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) the number of staff, gazetted and non-gazetted, temporary and permanent, in the employment of Parts A and B States as well as other Centrally Administered Areas in the control and distribution operation of cloth, cement, iron and steel, etc., and

the total expenditure incurred by the States Governments concerned during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement giving available information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 13.]

(b) Government have no information about Part A and B States. So far as Centrally Administered Areas are concerned, a statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 14.]

LOAN TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN WEST BENGAL

*1742. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan given to urban displaced persons in West Bengal since 1947;

(b) how many are businessmen, medical men, lawyers and students and what is the amount spent for each class; and

(c) the amount of loan given to agriculturists in the rural area and the total number of such agriculturists receiving loans?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Rs. 1,55,64,000.

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

STATEMENT

b) *Category*	*No. of Persons*	*Amount*
		Rs.
(i) Busines men-(Small).	6,608	45.48 lakhs
Business men (R. F. A.) (large scale).	891	90.00 ,, approx.
(ii) Medical men and Lawyers.	999	5·62 ,,
(iii) Students.	3,900	13.09 ,,
(iv) Artisans and Craftsmen	1,183	1.45 ,,
		155.64 ,,

(c) Rs. 137·54 lakhs.

39,000 families approximately.

Shri Barman: Has the Government decided upon the amount to be given to West Bengal D. Ps. in the year 1951-52?

Shri A. P. Jain: The figures are as follows:

	Rs.
Business men (small)	25.67 lakhs
Business men (through R.F.A.)	90.00 lakhs
Medical men and lawyers	2.50 lakhs
Student	1.97 lakhs
Artisans and craftsmen	0.70 lakhs
Total	1,20.84 lakhs

These figures are up to the end of November, 1950.

Shri Barman: What is the principle that guides the rehabilitation loan to displaced students?

Shri A. P. Jain: The scheme for advancing loan to displaced students has now been discontinued and instead of loans we are giving stipends. But according to the new scheme a student who was already receiving loan, if he so chooses, is allowed to continue under the old scheme.

Shri Barman: Would Government give favourable consideration to those displaced students who have no other resources in West Bengal and have lost their everything in East Bengal?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how much of this loan has come through the Rehabilitation Finance Administration and how much through Government's small loan scheme?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have already given the figures.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any loan been given to the agriculturists through the Rehabilitation Finance Administration?

Shri A. P. Jain: The R.F.A. does not deal with loans to agriculturists.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are not big farms included in its scope?

Shri A. P. Jain: The R. F. A. Act confines its scope to two fields only, namely, business and industry.

लाला अचित राम: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि उन के नोटिस में ऐसी शिकायत आई है कि गवर्नमेंट इन

किसानों का क़र्जा मंजूर करती है, लेकिन चूंकि वे लोग एस० डी० ओ० को रिश्वत देने को तैयार नहीं हैं, इस वास्ते उन के क़र्जे की अदायगी नहीं होती, जैसे कचरापाड़ा के इलाक़े में ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister kindly state if complaints have been brought into his notice that after the sanction of these loans by the Government, they are not disbursed to the agriculturists because of their unwillingness to bribe the S.D.O. as has been in the case at Kachrapara?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sondhi: The hon. Minister mentioned a figure of Rs. 90 lakhs as being the loan given through the Rehabilitation Finance Administration. Is it loan sanctioned or amount paid?

Shri A. P. Jain: Amount sanctioned.

DISPLACED *Patwaries* FROM PUNJAB (PAKISTAN)

*1743. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many displaced *patwaries* came from the Punjab (Pakistan), Sindh and Baluchistan just after 1947?

(b) How many of them have been given alternative jobs?

(c) How many of them are still without work?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). Labour and expense involved in the collection of these statistics would not be commensurate with the results.

TRADE DELEGATION TO SOUTH EAST ASIA

*1744. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a trade delegation was sent to South East Asia;

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

(c) the countries they visited; and

(d) the result of their tour?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation was led by Mr. P. A. Narielwala and was composed of Messrs. C. M. Kothari, B. T. Thakur, Kaka Bhagwant Roy, B. S. Bugga and K. L. Chaudhury and Mr. A. P. Mathur, an Officer of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, was Member-Secretary.

(c) The delegation visited Indonesia, Singapore, Malaya, Thailand and Burma.

(d) As a result of the visit of the trade Delegation to South East Asia, a trade Agreement between India and Indonesia was signed. The Delegation has also submitted a report on possibilities of expansion of trade with South East Asian countries. As a result of the visit of this delegation, a great deal of interest in trade with India has been aroused already.

Shri Jnani Ram: As a result of the recommendations of this delegation, what attempts are being made to enter into trade pacts with countries other than Indonesia?

Shri Mahtab: All efforts are being made, but except this agreement no other agreement has been entered into.

Shri Jnani Ram: What commodities have been agreed to be imported from Indonesia?

Shri Mahtab: I am placing a copy of the agreement on the Table for the information of the House. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 20.]

Shri R. Velayudhan: In selecting the non-official members of this delegation, was the Indian Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry consulted?

Shri Mahtab: I do not exactly know, but this delegation had the confidence of the trading section in the country.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What was the cost of this tour?

Shri Mahtab: Most of these gentlemen were non-officials and only one was an official. The non-officials were given the usual T.A. but I could not get the figures about the total amount.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Are Government satisfied that the achievements of this delegation are commensurate with the expenditure incurred?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is asking for an opinion.

Shri Kamath: Excepting Indonesia, have Government invited any persons from the other South East Asian countries to follow up the talks with our representatives as regards trade in those countries?

Shri Mahtab: Invitations are being sent and many of them are coming and discussions are going on.

MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES

*1745. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry

be pleased to state what is the estimated maximum capacity for the manufacture of matches yearly in the country?

(b) What have Government done to supply the raw materials in larger quantities to the Industry?

(c) Has the cost of production increased since last year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by me to part (f) of Pandit M. B. Bhargava's Starred Question No. 1645 on the 22nd February, 1951.

(b) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by me to parts (d) and (f) of Pandit M. B. Bhargava's Starred Question No. 1646 on the 22nd February, 1951.

(c) There has been a slight increase owing to a rise in the price of sulphur.

GOVERNMENT-OWNED CONCERNS

*1750. **Shri T. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state what is the amount of money spent on each of the Government-owned concerns so far and the estimated further expenses before they go on to production?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): Government undertakings now in the process of erection or construction through the Ministry of Works, Production and Supply are:

(1) The Fertilizer Factory, Sindri.

(2) Factory for the manufacture of Penicillin, Sulpha and Antimalarial drugs.

These exclude the Telephone Instrument Factory being erected by the Ministry of Communications, and the Ordnance Factory at Ambernath being erected by the Ministry of Defence.

Expenditure actually incurred on the two former undertakings is:

(1) Fertilizer Factory, Sindri: Rs. 17·5 crores approximately to end of November, 1950.

(2) Factory for the manufacture of Penicillin, Sulpha and Antimalarial drugs Rs. 3·23 lakhs approx.

The estimated further expenses on capital account likely to be incurred before they go on to production are:

(1) Fertilizer Factory, Sindri Rs. 5·5 crores.

(2) Factory for the manufacture of Penicillin, Sulpha and Antimalarial drugs: Rs. 3·47 crores.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what are the other factories besides the two mentioned by the hon. Minister and will he give details about them?

Mr. Speaker: I think a list of all Government factories was given more than once by the Finance Minister.

Shri T. N. Singh: My question was in relation to the amount spent already and the amount likely to be spent hereafter in regard to these factories. With regard to the Penicillin factory, may I know if it is a fact, as reported in the papers, that the W.H.O. has had some negotiations with the Government on the subject of its administration, control and production?

Shri Gadgil: The position is that the W.H.O. was approached for certain help and they have made a counter-offer. The same, along with other matters, is under consideration.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it likely to result in the control of the factories passing from Government to the W.H.O.?

Shri Gadgil: The whole thing is under consideration. But I can assure hon. members that in no case will the Government of India agree to control passing out of their hands.

Shri Sidhva: Is one of the items of the counter-offer of the W.H.O. that control of these factories should be vested in that organisation?

Shri Gadgil: That was not.

Shri Deogirikar: May I know where these penicillin, sulpha drugs and anti-malaria drug factories are to be located?

Shri Gadgil: It is in Dehu Road, near Poona.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Will the fixation of the prices of penicillin and the sulpha drugs produced at these factories be done on cost basis or profit basis?

Shri Gadgil: As far as I am able to say, Sir, this being a Government factory, the prices will be fixed on no-profit basis.

Shri A. C. Guha: Can the hon. Minister give us the original estimate of this factory and the subsequent revised estimate?

Shri Gadgil: The estimate of the penicillin factory is Rs. 3·47 crores, of which up till now only 3 lakhs have been spent.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know when the production of penicillin is likely to start in this factory? What is the position in regard to manufacture of sulpha drugs?

Shri Gadgil: If the negotiations that are going on come to a speedy conclusion, it is expected that production will start two years hence.

COIR MAT SHEARING MACHINE

*1751. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from the Travancore Coir Mats and Matting Manufacturing Association, Alleppey or other bodies requesting that Coir Mat Shearing Machine be placed in O.G.L. and if so, when?

(b) Is it a fact that the same were placed in O.G.L. before and if so, why were they removed from O.G.L.?

(c) Are coir mats shearing machines and component parts manufactured in India and if so, how much?

(d) What is the amount for which such machines and component parts were imported into India during 1949 and 1950?

(e) What are the total amounts of exports of coir mats during the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) In August 1949 a representation was received from the Travancore Coir Mats and Matting Manufacturing Association, Alleppey requesting the inclusion of Coir Mats Shearing Machine in the O.G.L.

(b) O.G.L. No. XI in which this item was included was cancelled on the 5th May, 1949 because of the serious position regarding the country's balance of trade.

(c) While some of the component parts are manufactured in India, neither the complete machine nor main parts such as ledger blades and spiral cutters have been manufactured in the country so far.

(d) The information is not available as imports of Coir Mats Shearing Machine are not recorded separately in the Sea and Air-Borne Trade Accounts of India.

(e) The total amount of exports of coir mats in the years 1949 and 1950 are as follows:

	Quantity (000) cwts.	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1949	355·8	249
1950	382·8	277

Shri Alexander: Will the Minister be pleased to read out the names of firms which are manufacturing component parts of shearing machines?

Shri Mahtab: There is only one firm in Mysore—the name of which I forget at the moment—which manufactures these component parts.

Shri Alexander: In view of the fact that spare parts of modern jute manufacturing machines have been placed on the O.G.L., and in view of the fact that coir manufactures are dollar earning items, do Government propose to reconsider the position and include coir mats shearing machines in the O.G.L.?

Shri Mahtab: I shall look into the matter. There seems to be a case in their favour.

INDO-FINNISH TRADE AGREEMENT

*1752. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Indo-Finnish trade agreement has been ratified;

(b) if so, for what period; and

(c) the volume and specifications of trade under the agreement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). India has not entered into a formal trade agreement with Finland but has arrived at a trade arrangement with that country for the year 1951 for promotion of direct trade between the two countries. No quantitative commitments have been made. Copies of trade letters exchanged to that effect have been placed in the Library of the House.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Has any agreement regarding the mode of payment been entered into?

Mr. Speaker: There has been no agreement. There has only been certain exchange of letters, copies of which are placed in the Library.

Shri T. N. Singh: In regard to the arrangement that has so far been made, may I know if there is any provision for import of newsprint from Finland?

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member goes through the correspondence, he will see that this has been included.

Shri Kamath: Do the letters of trade which have been exchanged show that there are difficulties or obstacles or any hitch in the way of entering into an agreement with Finland?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member should go through the letters first.

Shri Kamath: I have gone through them. Why this delay?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of opinion.

LAND RIGHTS OF INDIANS IN BURMA

*1753. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how has the question of land rights of Indians in Burma been settled?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): There has been no development whatsoever since the position was stated in reply to part (d) of the Starred Question No. 369 of Shri K. Hanumanthaiya and Shri T. Channiah asked on the 14th August, 1950. The Government of Burma have assured the Government of India that Indians will not be discriminated against in the implementation of the Burma Land Nationalisation Act, 1948.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी का इस सम्बन्ध में यह कहना है कि जो जमीन भारतवासियों के पास ब्रह्मा में थी, वह अभी भी उन के पास है और इस सम्बन्ध में कोई झगड़ा नहीं रह गया ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Does the hon. Minister's reply imply that the Indians still possess the proprietary rights of their holdings in Burma and no dispute exists about this issue now?]

डा० केसकर : मेरा इस बारे में कोई भी कहना नहीं है । मैं तो खाली आनरेबुल मेम्बर का ध्यान इस बात की तरफ दिला रहा था कि जो डेलीगेशन यहां से गया था, उस ने जो बातें बृह्मा गवर्नमेंट से की थीं, उस में बृह्मा गवर्नमेंट ने कहा था कि इस कानून के मुताबिक जो कुछ कार्यवाही की जायेगी, उस में हिन्दुस्तानी और बर्मी के बीच में कोई भेद नहीं किया जायेगा ।

[**Dr. Keskar:** I have nothing to add. I have merely to draw the hon. Member's attention to the fact that a delegation from this country visited Burma in this connection and in the course of their talks with the Government of Burma, that Government promised that no action taken in accordance with the provisions of this legislation will make any discrimination between an Indian and a Burmese.]

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

*1754. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what proposals of the International Labour Conference, presided over by the hon. Minister of Labour of the Government of India are to be given effect to?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The only proposal adopted at the 33rd session of the International Labour Conference calling for immediate action is a Recommendation concerning Vocational Training of Adults including Disabled Persons. This is being examined in consultation with the State Governments and a statement indicating the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendation will be laid on the Table in due course.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इस प्रस्ताव के सिवा क्या कोई और भी ऐसा प्रस्ताव इस कान्फ्रेन्स में हुआ है जिस कि कि सम्बन्ध में विचार चल रहा है भारत सरकार का या भारत सरकार के द्वारा प्रादेशिक सरकारों का ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Was any other proposal adopted at this Conference which be at present under the consideration of the Government of India or through them under the consideration of the State Governments?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : जी नहीं, वहां पर और कोई प्रस्ताव अभी पास नहीं हुआ । बहस तो बहुत से मामलों पर हुई थी, लेकिन वहां कोई प्रस्ताव या रिकमेनडेशन पास नहीं हुई । अगले अधिवेशन में होगा और जब हो जायगा तो उस पर विचार किया जायगा । एक और प्रस्ताव वहां पर पास हुआ था अनइम्पलायमेंट के सम्बन्ध में, I.L.O. की गवर्निंग बाडी (Governing Body) उस के सम्बन्ध में विचार कर रही है और जब वहां से वह निश्चय कर लेंगे, तब यहां की सरकार उस पर विचार करेगी ।

[**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** No, Sir, no other proposal has been adopted there so far. Discussions, no doubt, took place on many other topics but no proposal or recommendations were adopted. These will be discussed at the next session of the Conference and will be taken into consideration after that. A proposal in respect of unemployment was also adopted there. At present it is under the consideration of the Governing Body of the I.L.O. and on their reaching a decision this Government will also take it into consideration.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अगली कान्फ्रेन्स का जो जिक्र अभी किया, तो वह अगला अधिवेशन कब होने वाला है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** With reference to the next session, when is it likely to be held?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : वह तो प्रत्येक वर्ष जून के महीने में होता है ।

[**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is held in the month of June every year.]

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*1755. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the number of Central Government employees who are on the waiting list for getting residential accommodation?

(b) To which categories of service do the said applicants belong?

(c) What are the numbers under each category?

(d) How many of the applicants have been on the waiting list for more than five years?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The hon. Member has apparently in mind residential accommodation under the control of the Estate Officer at Delhi and New Delhi. If so, the number of Central Government employees on the waiting list who are eligible for residential accommodation and who are without any Government accommodation (other than hostel accommodation), is 33,542.

(b) and (c). The categories and their numbers are:

(i) Officers drawing Rs. 500 p.m. and above—511.

(ii) Officers drawing less than Rs. 500 per month—23,733.

(iii) Class IV employees—9,298.

Total 33,542.

(d) The number of officers on the waiting list, whose priority date is 31st December 1945 or earlier is 6,236. This does not include Class IV employees to whom allotments are made by Ministries concerned, on *pro rata* basis.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Arising out of the answer to part (d) of the question, can the hon. Minister give the number of Class III and Class IV employees who are on the waiting list for more than five years?

Shri Buragohain: With regard to Class III officers, they are included in the figure I have just given, namely 6,236.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: I wanted to know the number of Class III and Class IV employees.

Shri Buragohain: As I have already stated, this figure does not include Class IV employees in the waiting list.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if any private houses were requisitioned during the last two or three years for providing accommodation to Class III and Class IV employees?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the number of buildings or quarters for employees that are under construction every year?

Shri Buragohain: That is a separate question altogether.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is there any programme and plan before Government for building houses specially for Class III and Class IV employees?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): Yes. As per that programme, in the course of the last eighteen months 2,500 units were built for Class III employees and 1,000 for Class IV employees. For the next year the programme is to build another two thousand.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the number of applicants provided during the last five years?

Shri Buragohain: I have not got the figure with me just now.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know the total amount of rent realized from Government employees?

Shri Buragohain: That also, Sir, is a separate question and does not appear to arise out of this.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what is the basis of the procedure adopted in allotting out-of-turn accommodation?

Shri Buragohain: This question came up once before in this House. Only in hard cases out-of-turn allotments are given.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know how many employees are likely to be accommodated in the coming year?

Mr. Speaker: I think the figure was given—two thousand.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Sir, I wanted to know the basis of the procedure by which out-of-turn allotments are made.

Shri Buragohain: As I stated, a detailed reply was given to a question of that kind in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

SEALING OF 'B' ZONE IN BERAR

***1757. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of protests, letters, telegrams and representations received by the Ministry of Industry against the order dated the 29th December 1950 of the Textile Commissioner sealing the 'B' zone in Berar?

(b) How long were all transactions in all the Cotton Markets in the zone suspended?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, a number of protests were received.

(b) The order did not suspend transaction in *kapas* or ginning operations but suspended transactions in cotton between dealers *inter se* and between dealers and mills. Bonafide transactions in cotton entered into before 29th December were permitted to be fulfilled between merchants *inter se* or between merchants and mills. It is not possible to state exactly for how long transactions in the three districts concerned stood suspended. Textile Commissioner was, however, informed that all markets in the three districts opened on the 20th January, 1951.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that a number of protests were received. I have asked for that number. Is it not possible to calculate the number of protests received?

Shri Mahtab: A number of protests were received personally by me, some by the Secretary, some by the Textile Commissioner. It is very difficult to calculate all these. And I would suggest that there is no necessity of raking up past things when in consultation with the hon. Member himself the matter has been satisfactorily settled.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has this sealing of the zones been effected in any other area apart from this 'B' Zone? Has any other zone been sealed similarly?

Shri Mahtab: One zone has been sealed in East Punjab and one in Madhya Pradesh.

COTTON OF BARI AMERICAN VARIETY

***1758. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the ceiling prices per *khandi* of cotton of Bari American variety?

(b) What is the price paid per *khandi* for the cotton imported from (i) Pakistan, (ii) Egypt, (iii) Sudan, (iv) America and (v) British East Africa?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Rs. 900 per candy for the basic quality (i.e. fine 7/8" staple) and Rs. 1,015 for top quality (i.e. choice 1" staple), for Buri (and not Bari) American variety 1950-51 crop.

(b) A statement showing the market prices as on the 9th February 1951, for the different cotton is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 15.]

Dr. Deshmukh: Is the hon. Minister aware that the variety called Cambodia produced in Berar is being sold at prices which are regarded as unsatisfactory by the farmers and have any protests been received with regard to that?

Shri Mahtab: Protests have been received because when the price is compared with the prices abroad some discontent starts. But the price which has been fixed by Government seems to be remunerative for the agriculturists.

Dr. Deshmukh: In view of the prices that have been stated with regard to the cotton that will be obtained from Pakistan, will there be any change as a result of the Trade Agreement and the exchange ratio that has been decided upon?

Shri Mahtab: The Trade Agreement came into force only yesterday and these points have not yet been thought of.

PURCHASE OF COTTON BY TEXTILE MILLS THROUGH NOMINEES

***1759. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) why the Textile Commissioner insists on mills having quotas buying from nominees and no one else; and

(b) the reasons why nominees have been appointed without taking the advice of the Advisory Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Except in the districts of Buldana, Akola and Amraoti in Madhya Pradesh and Ferozepur in the Punjab, mills are free to buy cotton from the ginners. Akola, Buldana and Amraoti Districts in Madhya Pradesh and Ferozepur District in the Punjab were sealed off because mills, to whom quotas were allotted from these districts, complained of the non-availability of cotton at controlled prices.

LAND ALLOTMENT IN THE PUNJAB

***1760. Lala Achint Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is a certain percentage of displaced persons who have been allotted in the Punjab uneconomic units of land after applying a cut of 25 per cent. to their holdings in Pakistan?

(b) If so, do Government propose to start Training and Work Centres in rural areas where such displaced persons live in large numbers, so that they may get supplementary work and stick to rural life?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

लाला अचित राम : क्या गवर्नमेंट ऐसे आदमियों के लिये जिन के पास ज़मीनें थोड़ी हैं कोई कर्ज़े का इन्तज़ाम कर रही है ताकि वह सप्लीमेन्टरी काम कर सकें जैसे कोल्हू या दूध वगैरह बेचने का ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Are the Government making some arrangements for the grant of loans to persons who have inadequate holdings so as to enable them to undertake some other supplementary works like working of a *kolhu* or sale of milk to supplement their incomes?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : गवर्नमेन्ट की तरफ़ से वोकेशनल और टेकनिकल ट्रेनिंग के कितने ही केन्द्र खुले हुए हैं जिन में कि करीब करीब १५ या १६ हज़ार आदमियों को हर साल ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है । जो ट्रेनिंग पायेंगे और खुद अपना काम करना चाहेंगे उन को कर्ज़ा भी दिया जायगा ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: There are many vocational and technical training centres opened by the Government all over the country in which some 15 or 16 thousands of people receive training every year. Those who are desirous of starting their own work after the completion of their training will also be granted loans.]

लाला अचित राम : क्या स्पीकर साहब ऐसा इन्तज़ाम करेंगे कि जो सवाल किया जाये, उस का जवाब मिल सके । मैं यह अर्ज़ कर रहा हूं कि जो आदमी देहात में रहते हैं और देहात की ज़मीनों से फ़ायदा उठाना चाहते हैं फिर भी ज़मीन की कमी की वजह से उठा नहीं सकते .....

[Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Speaker kindly see that replies are given in respect of the questions that are actually put? My submission is that those who live in the villages and want to reap full benefit from their lands but who are unable to do so because of their inadequate holdings.....]

श्री ऐ० पी० जैन : यह आंरेबल मेम्बर के समझने की गलती है, जो लोग ट्रेनिंग पाते हैं उन में से कितने ही ऐसे हैं जो गांव में जाकर बसते हैं । उन में से कम और ज़्यादा ज़मीन रखने वाले दोनों ही होते हैं ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: The hon. Member has misunderstood me. A majority of those who receive training in these centres settle down in the villages. They include persons both with adequate and inadequate holdings.]

लाला अचित राम : और जो आदमी ज़मीन भी नहीं छोड़ सकते .....

[Lala Achint Ram: And those who cannot give up their lands.....]

Mr. Speaker: The point is whether arrangements are made for any supplementary industries for agriculturists.

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अब तक कोई ऐसी स्कीम नहीं है लेकिन जहां जहां पर यह मुमकिन हो सकेगा इस की कोशिश की जायेगी ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: So far there is no such scheme but efforts will be made to open them at places where it is possible to do so.]

लाला अचित राम : कब तक वह स्कीम जारी हो जायेगी ।

[Lala Achint Ram: By what time that scheme is expected to be launched?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जितनी जल्दी मुमकिन होगा ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: As soon as possible.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know whether Government is allotting lands to displaced persons who had no lands in Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, we are allotting lands to those persons who had no lands in Pakistan but who were doing actual agriculture.

LAND ALLOTMENT IN THE PUNJAB

*1761. Lala Achint Ram: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the number of displaced persons whose lands were subjected to a cut of 25 per cent. and are allotted only uneconomic units of less than ten acres of land in the Punjab?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The number of allottees who have been allotted 10 acres or less each is 3,19,099.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी फरमायेंगे कि ऐसे किसानों को जिन के पास जमीनें बहुत थोड़ी हैं और जिन की संख्या तीन लाख के करीब है आप और जगहें दिला सकेंगे ताकि वह अपना गुजर कर सकें?

[Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Minister kindly state whether he will be able to get further units of land allotted to those persons having inadequate holdings and numbering more than 3 lacs, so as to enable them to maintain themselves?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जिन लोगों के पास जमीनें थोड़ी हैं वह तीन तरह से अपना काम चलाते हैं, खाली वहीं पर नहीं जहां पर पुरुषार्थी आबाद हुए हैं बल्कि बाकी हिन्दुस्तान में भी। उन में से बहुत से आदमी तो छोटी दुकानदारी करते हैं, और पंजाब के अन्दर खास तौर से ऐसे आदमी हैं जिन को पेन्शन वगैरा मिल रही है, और बहुत से ऐसे हैं जो दूसरों की जमीन बतौर काश्तकार के ले लेते हैं। और पंजाब से हमें जो रिपोर्ट मिली है उस से मालूम होता है कि वहां पर काश्तकारोंकी बहुत ज्यादा जरूरत है और जमीनें वहा पर मिल सकती हैं ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Persons with inadequate holdings maintain themselves in three ways not only at those places where the displaced persons have been resettled but in the rest of India as well. A considerable number of such persons are engaged in petty shopkeeping and in the Punjab in particular a large number of people are receiving pensions and again there are many who take on lease lands from others. From the reports received from the Punjab it is learned that there is a great demand of cultivators there and lands are also available there for that purpose.]

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि जिन को कोई पेन्शन नहीं मिलती है और जो दुकानदारी करना चाहते हैं, उन की दुकानों के लिये कर्ज का इन्तजाम गवर्नमेंट कर रही ह ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Minister kindly state whether the Government are making some arrangements to grant loans to those persons who receive no pensions but want to engage themselves in shop-keeping?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन: आनरेबुल मेम्बर को मालूम है कि कर्ज की स्कीम है दुकानदारी के लिये और उस में जो कोई आयेगा उस को कर्ज दिया जायेगा ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: The hon. Member is aware that the Loan Scheme is meant for starting business and that a loan will be granted to those who fall in that category.]

लाला अचित राम : मैं देहातों के लिये अर्ज कर रहा हूं ।

[Lala Achint Ram: I am speaking in respect of villages.]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जो कोई भी स्कीम कर्ज की कारबार के लिये है वह पेशे पर है ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: All schemes for grant of loans are in respect of certain classes of business and professions.]

लाला अचित राम : अब तक ऐसा कर्ज़ा कितना दिया गया है?

[Lala Achint Ram: What is the total amount of such loans that have so far been granted?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मेरे पास अलहदा कोई आंकड़े नहीं ह ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: I have no separate figures.]

लाला अचित राम : आप कब तक यह आंकड़े दे सकेंगे ।

[Lala Achint Ram: When will it be possible for you to give these figures?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन: उन का इकट्ठा करना बहुत मुश्किल है ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: It is very difficult to collect them.]

लाला अचित राम : क्या जब तक यह मिनिस्टर हैं तब तक इकट्ठे हो जायेंगे ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Will it be possible to collect them in his tenure of office as Minister?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

EXPORT AND IMPORT TRADE ON BARTER SYSTEM

*1762. Shri Jhunjhunwala: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the total average volume in quantity and value of export and import trade done on barter system and its percentage, when compared with the total volume in value of export and import trade?

(b) What was it in the year 1948-49 and 1949-50?

(c) What is the total value and percentage of import of capital goods?

(d) Is any capital goods imported on barter system?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The figures of trade on barter basis available for the two financial years 1948-50 show that the average yearly exports were 83,000 tons and yearly imports 5,78,500 tons and their average value was 18·17 crores of rupees. Barter exports represent 4·15 per cent. of the total exports and barter imports 3·35 per cent. of the total imports in these years.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIII, annexure No. 16.]

(d) The answer is in the negative.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: May I know which are the countries with which barter trade is carried on and in what materials?

Shri Mahtab: Argentine and U.S.S.R.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What materials have we exported and what have we imported?

Shri Mahtab: For instance, from Argentine we get wheat, barley, maize in exchange for hessian; similarly we get wheat in exchange for raw jute, tea, castor oil, etc. from U.S.S.R.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Was any barter trade completed with France for jute? We imported steel and exported jute?

Shri Mahtab: I am not aware of it.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Was any attempt ever made by barter trade to import capital goods in exchange for our raw materials, especially when we contracted our raw materials at a very low price?

Shri Mahtab: That is not a fact. Our raw materials, I think, are obtaining the market price abroad, but so far as the capital goods are concerned, the import policy is well known but there the import of capital goods is by a different method altogether, and no attempt has yet been made to introduce the barter system of trade, in this case.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been a barter trade between India and China?

Shri Mahtab: Not yet.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any exchange of jute for rice there?

Shri Mahtab: There has been no barter trade.

SIKH MISSIONARIES VISITING FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*1763. Giani G. S. Musafir: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government have imposed any restrictions on Sikh Missionaries visiting foreign countries, including South and East Africa?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): No, Sir. But in view of the fact that after the visit of some religious preachers some communal incidents took place in East Africa. Government felt that some control over the visit of religious preachers was essential for the good

name of our country and our citizens staying there.

No restrictions are however placed in the way of religious preachers or other citizens proceeding there in pursuit of their normal avocations.

Shri Kamath: Have any complaints or representations been made to Government that the movements or activities of our missionaries or religious preachers have been restricted or otherwise adversely affected owing to the secular character of our State?

Dr. Keskar: I have not understood the question.

Mr. Speaker: I have understood the question. He need not reply.

Shri Kamath *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No argument over that.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the policy of the Government in regard to religious missionaries coming into and going out of this country?

Dr. Keskar: I made it very clear that Government has no objection whatever to religious missionaries or any other citizens going out but in this particular country—East Africa—there are a lot of Indian citizens staying there. After the visit of certain religious missionaries, communal incidents on the Indian model began to take place and from that time Government thought it necessary that some control or check should be exercised. In spite of that, we try to stop as few people as possible, who go for religious preaching.

Shri Kamath *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is putting questions which are full of insinuations.

Shri Kamath: I must protest against that. Whatever may be your ruling...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He may take his seat.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, I wanted to know the policy of Government in regard to the religious missionaries coming into this country and this point of my question was not replied to.

Dr. Keskar: In India there is religious liberty. The missionaries can come but if any such things such as happened in East Africa do begin to happen, due to certain missionaries, Government would certainly take action against them.

FOREIGN PUBLICITY

*1764. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total annual expenditure incurred by the Government of India in connection with foreign publicity?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The External Publicity Division of the Ministry of External Affairs was established in 1948. During the financial year 1948-49 a sum of Rs. 25,35,210 was spent. In 1949 the figure was raised to 33,51,200 because of greater activities of the Division and increased participation of India in international affairs. For the current year 1950-51, a sum of Rs. 33,51,200 was provided for in the Budget and we hope that with economy, which will, no doubt, affect the work of the Division, the total expenditure will not exceed Rs. 32,57,200. This will mean a saving of over 1,00,000 of rupees.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is it a fact that the amount of expenditure so far incurred yearly is quite inadequate to the needs of publicity in foreign lands?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir. Government itself considers that the sum allocated is inadequate.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the country where the largest amount has been spent on this head?

Dr. Keskar: This question has been answered a number of times and in detail on the floor of this House and I think the Budget debate is coming next week in which all these questions will be discussed in detail. I hope my hon. friend will not mind waiting for a few days more.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: The hon. Minister himself stated that the amounts spent are inadequate. May I ask if Government propose to increase the amounts next year?

Dr. Keskar: If next year, fortunately the budgetary position improves, Government will certainly try to increase it, but as long as the present economic stringency lasts, I am afraid, there is very little hope of our being able to increase the amounts spent on publicity.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know if it is a fact that there is much ignorance about Indian problems, particularly the Kashmir problem, in spite of the publicity given by our Government?

Dr. Keskar: We have tried to give as much publicity as it is possible with our limited means, but there is no doubt that there is a lot of ignorance about Indian problems and even about Kashmir, but I do not think it is possible for us to dissipate all that ignorance quickly, as we would like to do.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if this sum of Rs. 32 lakhs relates only to expenditure incurred by the publicity department outside or does it include the expenditure which has been incurred in India on publicity abroad, in the form of literature etc.?

Dr. Keskar: This refers to expenditure of the External Publicity Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, whether in India or outside.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

RELAXATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON COTTON IMPORTS

*1736. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have relaxed some of the restrictions on cotton imports; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the countries from which there is possibility of securing substantial quantities of cotton?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Import of cotton is limited only by availability from exporting countries rather than by any restrictions imposed in India.

(b) The first part of the question does not arise. The bulk of imports are expected from United States of America, Egypt, and East Africa.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

*1746. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of meetings of the various Standing Committees of Parliament attached to different Ministries of the Government of India held during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 (up till now)?

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): A statement showing the number of meetings of the various Standing Advisory Committees of Parliament attached to the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India for the year 1949-50 was placed on the Table of the House on the 29th March, 1950. A supplementary statement for the same year was laid on the Table on the 17th April, 1950. The statements also included information about the members who attended the meetings and the subjects discussed.

A similar statement for the year 1950-51 will be laid on the Table of the House next month.

INDIAN WORKERS IN CEYLON

*1747. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what is the number of Indian Workers employed in Ceylon after 1st July 1948, and what steps have Government taken or propose to take to protect such workers?

(b) What is the total number of Ceylon workers employed in India, and those employed after 1st July 1948?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) No figures are available. The hon. Member presumably wants to know the action taken by the Government of India to protect the interests of those persons who have been discontinued from employment as a result of the implementation of the agreement recently signed between the Ceylon Government and the Indian Mercantile Chamber of Ceylon. If so, the agreement being essentially a private affair, they have not pursued this matter. However, if a person is discontinued from employment, he is paid an adequate compensation and passage free to India by the employer. Every endeavour is made by the High Commissioner for India in Ceylon to obtain compensation for such persons where any complaint in regard to its non-payment by the employer comes to his notice.

(b) No figures are available.

MICA-MINE LABOUR OF BHILWORA (RAJASTHAN)

*1748. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Mica-mine labour of Bhilwora (Rajasthan) made any representation to Government against distribution of mica blocks to tenderers?

(b) What were the grievances of the workers and what steps have Government taken to remedy them?

(c) Is there any legislation in force in Rajasthan to regulate the wages, grain concessions and working conditions in the Mica mines there?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) The grievances of the workers relate to wages, dearness allowance, bonus, leave with pay and share in the joint Mica Mission Bonus. An *ad hoc* Industrial Tribunal has been appointed by Government for adjudication of the workers' demands.

(c) All Central Labour Acts were extended to Rajasthan.

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY

*1749. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a machine tool factory in the country with the assistance of a Swiss firm?

(b) If so, what will be the cost of its establishment and what tools will it manufacture?

(c) What are the main terms of agreement with the Swiss firm?

(d) How will the proposed factory affect the existing machine tool factories in the country?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The capital cost of the factory is estimated at Rs. 8·37 crores.

The factory is expected to manufacture General purposes machine tools, *viz.*—

High Speed lathes,
Heavy Duty Drilling Machines,
and
Milling Machines.

(c) A copy of a note containing the salient features of the agreement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 17.]

(d) The proposed factory will not affect the existing machine tool factories in the country in any way, because it is intended to be complimentary to them and not competitive.

BANKS' AWARDS (NON-IMPLEMENTATION)

*1756. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of non-implementation of the Banks' Awards relating to interim relief, victimisation of employees and the final award of the All-India Industrial Tribunal (Bank Disputes) reported to Government;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched against the Banks for such non-implementation; and

(c) the results of those proceedings?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Implementation of the awards of the All India Industrial Tribunal is secured by the Industrial Relations Organisation. Officers of that organisation report that the Banks have generally implemented the awards. Complaints of non-implementation are being investigated through them and prosecutions launched in established cases. It may be mentioned that some of the important banks filed petitions before the Supreme Court challenging the main award. The Court had granted orders staying the implementation of the award in respect of certain issues *viz.* bonus, provident fund, gratuity, and applicability of award to officers. The Court has not so far passed final orders.

(b) Prosecutions have been launched in nine cases. Of these, three relate to interim relief award, five to victimisation awards and one to the main award.

(c) Except one, all the other cases are pending before the Courts. In one case the Court has acquitted the Bank concerned.

DEVELOPMENT OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

*1765. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred during the year 1950 by the Government of India on the development of cottage industries;

(b) the particular cottage industries which have been enabled to develop during the year and the regions selected for their development; and

(c) the nature and extent of the assistance furnished by Government in the case of each of these cottage industries.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Rs. 8,82,329.

(b) and (c). The development of cottage industries is mainly the concern of the States. The Central Government has given financial assistance to some of them and also to a few non-official organisations for the development of cottage industries in general and for the marketing of cottage industries' products. Funds have not been ear-marked for the development of any particular cottage industry.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN ASSAM

*1766. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindus rehabilitated in the State of Assam upto date;

(b) the number of Hindu displaced persons in Assam still to be rehabilitated;

(c) the number of displaced persons provided with services in the Assam Railways;

(d) the number of displaced persons employed in other Government of India services in the State of Assam; and

(e) the number of displaced persons provided with services in the State of Assam?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 1,68,870 persons have received rehabilitation benefits from the State.

(b) 6,727 persons who are still living in camps will need State aid for rehabilitation. The situation in Assam being fluctuating, it is difficult to say how many more persons will require State assistance.

(c) 1299.

(d) 161.

(e) Information is not available.

BLACK MARKETING BY TEXTILE MILL

*1767. **Master Nand Lal:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one textile mill in the Uttar Pradesh was detected in black marketing in cloth about a year back; and

(b) whether the Mill has been prosecuted?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) The case is already in Court.

SALT

*1768. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether payment of compensation for stopping the manufacture of salt which was being paid to the former Princely States for the past several decades is still being continued; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the amount involved and to how many states compensation is still being paid?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

RELEASED CLOTH AND QUOTA CLOTH

*1769. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what is meant by released cloth and quota cloth;

(b) the percentage of both kinds referred to above out of the total production of a Mill;

(c) whether there is any margin fixed for released cloth to be charged from a consumer; and

(d) the quantity of quota cloth per head of population?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The term "Released cloth" refers to that portion of the mills' production on which the Government of India do not exercise distribution control but which has been permitted to be disposed of through ordinary trade channels.

The term "Quota Cloth" applies (i) to cloth bought by the State Governments against release orders or purchase authorities issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, and (ii) in the case of States other than Bombay which have composite mills within the respective zones, to that portion of the mills' production which the Textile Commissioner has placed at their disposal as part of their quotas.

(b) The percentage of both kinds of cloth referred to above is 33⅓ and 66⅔ respectively.

(c) The entire production of cloth for consumption in India by mills is subject to price control. Therefore, irrespective of whether the distribution is through controlled channels or normal trade channels the retail margin permissible is 14 per cent. over the ex-factory prices. Both the ex-factory and the retail prices are stamped on all varieties of cloth.

(d) The cloth quotas due to the States fixed by the Government of India in 1948 are calculated at 18 yards, 15 yards and 12 yards per capita for city, urban and rural population respectively.

QUOTA CLOTH AND RELEASED CLOTH FOR BIHAR

*1770. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of quota cloth and released cloth sent to the State of Bihar during last six months separately; and

(b) the percentage of Dhoti and Saree out of the stock sent during last six months?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The despatches of cloth to Bihar during the period July to December, 1950 amounted to 55,070 bales through controlled channels and 9,539 bales

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY

*1749. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a machine tool factory in the country with the assistance of a Swiss firm?

(b) If so, what will be the cost of its establishment and what tools will it manufacture?

(c) What are the main terms of agreement with the Swiss firm?

(d) How will the proposed factory affect the existing machine tool factories in the country?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The capital cost of the factory is estimated at Rs. 8·37 crores.

The factory is expected to manufacture General purposes machine tools, *viz.*—

High Speed lathes,
Heavy Duty Drilling Machines,
and
Milling Machines.

(c) A copy of a note containing the salient features of the agreement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 17.]

(d) The proposed factory will not affect the existing machine tool factories in the country in any way, because it is intended to be complimentary to them and not competitive.

BANKS' AWARDS (NON-IMPLEMENTATION)

*1756. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of non-implementation of the Banks' Awards relating to interim relief, victimisation of employees and the final award of the All-India Industrial Tribunal (Bank Disputes) reported to Government;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched against the Banks for such non-implementation; and

(c) the results of those proceedings?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Implementation of the awards of the All India Industrial Tribunal is secured by the Industrial Relations Organisation. Officers of that organisation report that the Banks have generally implemented the awards. Complaints of non-implementation are being investigated through them and prosecutions launched in established cases. It may be mentioned that some of the important banks filed petitions before the Supreme Court challenging the main award. The Court had granted orders staying the implementation of the award in respect of certain issues *viz.* bonus, provident fund, gratuity, and applicability of award to officers. The Court has not so far passed final orders.

(b) Prosecutions have been launched in nine cases. Of these, three relate to interim relief award, five to victimisation awards and one to the main award.

(c) Except one, all the other cases are pending before the Courts. In one case the Court has acquitted the Bank concerned.

DEVELOPMENT OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

*1765. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred during the year 1950 by the Government of India on the development of cottage industries;

(b) the particular cottage industries which have been enabled to develop during the year and the regions selected for their development; and

(c) the nature and extent of the assistance furnished by Government in the case of each of these cottage industries.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Rs. 8,82,329.

(b) and (c). The development of cottage industries is mainly the concern of the States. The Central Government has given financial assistance to some of them and also to a few non-official organisations for the development of cottage industries in general and for the marketing of cottage industries' products. Funds have not been ear-marked for the development of any particular cottage industry.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN ASSAM

*1766. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindus rehabilitated in the State of Assam upto date;

(b) the number of Hindu displaced persons in Assam still to be rehabilitated;

(c) the number of displaced persons provided with services in the Assam Railways;

(d) the number of displaced persons employed in other Government of India services in the State of Assam; and

(e) the number of displaced persons provided with services in the State of Assam?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 1,68,870 persons have received rehabilitation benefits from the State.

(b) 6,727 persons who are still living in camps will need State aid for rehabilitation. The situation in Assam being fluctuating, it is difficult to say how many more persons will require State assistance.

(c) 1299.

(d) 161.

(e) Information is not available.

BLACK MARKETING BY TEXTILE MILL

*1767. **Master Nand Lal:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one textile mill in the Uttar Pradesh was detected in black marketing in cloth about a year back; and

(b) whether the Mill has been prosecuted?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) The case is already in Court.

SALT

*1768. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether payment of compensation for stopping the manufacture of salt which was being paid to the former Princely States for the past several decades is still being continued; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the amount involved and to how many states compensation is still being paid?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

RELEASED CLOTH AND QUOTA CLOTH

*1769. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what is meant by released cloth and quota cloth;

(b) the percentage of both kinds referred to above out of the total production of a Mill;

(c) whether there is any margin fixed for released cloth to be charged from a consumer; and

(d) the quantity of quota cloth per head of population?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The term "Released cloth" refers to that portion of the mills' production on which the Government of India do not exercise distribution control but which has been permitted to be disposed of through ordinary trade channels.

The term "Quota Cloth" applies (i) to cloth bought by the State Governments against release orders or purchase authorities issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, and (ii) in the case of States other than Bombay which have composite mills within the respective zones, to that portion of the mills' production which the Textile Commissioner has placed at their disposal as part of their quotas.

(b) The percentage of both kinds of cloth referred to above is 33⅓ and 66⅔ respectively.

(c) The entire production of cloth for consumption in India by mills is subject to price control. Therefore, irrespective of whether the distribution is through controlled channels or normal trade channels the retail margin permissible is 14 per cent. over the ex-factory prices. Both the ex-factory and the retail prices are stamped on all varieties of cloth.

(d) The cloth quotas due to the States fixed by the Government of India in 1948 are calculated at 18 yards, 15 yards and 12 yards per capita for city, urban and rural population respectively.

QUOTA CLOTH AND RELEASED CLOTH FOR BIHAR

*1770. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of quota cloth and released cloth sent to the State of Bihar during last six months separately; and

(b) the percentage of Dhoti and Saree out of the stock sent during last six months?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The despatches of cloth to Bihar during the period July to December, 1950 amounted to 55,070 bales through controlled channels and 9,539 bales

through normal trade channels. These figures are exclusive of the entire production of about 240 bales per month of two mills in Bihar placed at the disposal of the Bihar Government under the All India Distribution Scheme.

(b) Details regarding the varieties which make up the figures given in answer to part (a) are not available. However, a total quantity of 3,109 bales of dhoties and 5,598 bales of sarees were released to Bihar during July/December 1950. These quantities do not include (i) 713 bales of dhoties and 400 bales of sarees produced by the two mills in Bihar during July/December, 1950, whose production has been placed at the disposal of Bihar Government, (ii) dhoties and sarees procured by Bihar nominees from the Bombay and Ahmedabad non-selected mills on purchase authorities issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, and (iii) dhoties and sarees which would have moved to Bihar through normal trade channels out of the "free-sale" cloth of mills.

YARN ALLOTTED TO BIHAR

*1771. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the method of yarn distribution to each State; and

(b) the quantity of yarn allotted to Bihar during the later half of 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Under the yarn Distribution Scheme mills have been linked to each State for the supply of specific quantities of yarn which would approximate to the State's quota, in specific counts month by month on a running basis. The mills offer the quantities covered by these running release orders to the State Textile authorities or their nominees by the 7th of each month on the basis of their anticipated production and the State authorities are required to intimate their acceptance of such offers to the mills within 7 days of the receipt of such offers or 14th of the month whichever is later and enter into contracts for purchase and lifting of the bales within 7 days thereafter.

(b) Against Bihar's quota of 4,835 bales of yarn per month, allocations on mills averaged 5,127 bales per month during the period July to December 1950. The quantity of yarn delivered by mills against these allocations, however, averaged to 1,595 bales per month during this period.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN

*1772. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Spain will shortly sign their first Trade Agreement in Madrid; and

(b) if so, what are the articles that will be imported into India under this agreement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). India and Spain exchanged letters on the 13th February, 1951 at Madrid conveying the approval of the respective Governments to the Agreed Minutes of trade discussions with the Spanish Trade Mission which visited India in October, 1950. Copies of the Agreed Minutes of Discussions have been placed in the Library of the House.

INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION

*1773. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) why Czechoslovakia is not represented at the International Engineering Exhibition Delhi; and

(b) whether steps are being taken to include Czechoslovakia in the Industrial International Fair at Delhi or Bombay?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The Czechoslovakian National Committees for the World Power Conference and the International Commission on Large Dams were invited by the Indian National Committees to participate in the Exhibition. Invitation was also issued by us to the Government of Czechoslovakia. Both the Czechoslovakian National Committees and the Government of Czechoslovakia expressed their inability to participate.

(b) No Industrial International Fair is proposed to be held at Delhi in the near future. The Fair to be held at Bombay this year is organised by private enterprise viz. the Engineering Association of India, Bombay.

HANDLOOMS IN HYDERABAD STATE

*1774. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many working handlooms there are in the State of Hyderabad and what is the quantity of yarn required to keep them working to their capacity:

(b) what percentage of this, Government are now supplying and what steps are being taken to supply adequate quantities; and

(c) whether there is any difference as to the quality and prices between the yarn supplied to the State and other parts of the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There are 1,40,000 handlooms in the Hyderabad state out of which 1,38,000 looms are active and 57 per cent. of these active looms viz., 79,584 are working on cotton yarn. The requirements of the looms amount to 4,350 bales of yarn per month.

(b) The yarn quota for Hyderabad State was fixed at 3,865 bales per month in November, 1948, on the basis of yarn consumption as estimated by the Fact Finding Committee. Against this, yarn delivered by mills to that State during the period September to December, 1950, averaged 2,147 bales per month. The Textile Commissioner, Hyderabad, had estimated in 1946 that out of the supplies of the yarn received by the State 90 per cent. was being allotted to the handloom industry. On this basis, on an average about 1,932 bales per month would have been allotted to the handloom industry during September to December, 1950. In order to make available more yarn to the Industry the Government of India have totally banned the export of yarn and have withdrawn the free-sale concession given to the mills. 60,000 bales of American cotton have been supplied to the spinning mills at subsidised rates for production of yarn for supply to the handloom industry. Yarn of counts 80s and above to the tune of Rs. 65 lakhs is being imported during the first half of 1951 for the purpose.

(c) The specifications in regard to the count-lea strength product and the ex-mill prices prescribed by the Textile Commissioner in the Yarn Price Schedule apply to the production of such counts of yarn by all mills in India. There is thus no difference in the quality and prices of yarn supplied by mills to the Hyderabad State and to other parts of the country, except that mills which obtain not less than 75 per cent. of the motive power by burning coal and/or fuel oil are permitted to increase the maximum ex-factory price prescribed at 2½ per cent. as compensatory coal and/or fuel oil allowance.

JUTE STOCK

*1775. **Shri Himatsingka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of jute which is in stock with the jute mills in Bengal and outside Bengal?

(b) Is the stock in hand together with what is expected to come from the Indian Union regarded as sufficient till the next crop?

(c) What steps, if any, do Government propose to take to increase the supply of raw jute to the mills?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The exact information is not available. Even if it is available, it will not be in the best interest of the country to disclose it.

(c) Efforts are being made to grow more jute and secure jute from where it is available.

"BHULI TOWNSHIP" CONSTRUCTED FROM COAL MINES WELFARE FUND

*1776. **Shri Himatsingka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether a township known as the "Bhuli Township" has been constructed from the Coal Mines Welfare Fund to house coal miners?

(b) If so, how many houses have been built in the township and what are the amenities provided?

(c) What is the accommodation contained in each house and what is its cost of construction?

(d) What is the total cost of the Township?

(e) On what rent have the houses been let out to the workers?

(f) How many houses have been so far occupied by the workers and how many are vacant?

(g) Are the authority concerned and the workers satisfied with the working of the Township?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) 1566 houses have been built. The amenities provided are community latrines, street lighting, dispensary, miners' institute for providing educational and recreational facilities to men, women and children, primary school, post office, night school for adults, outdoor games like foot ball and volley ball, reading room and information bureau. Water supply and sanitary arrangements have so far been provided in 432 houses.

(c) Each house has two rooms, front verandah, back verandah-cum-kitchen, court-yard with compound wall and bath room.

The average cost of construction of each house works out to about Rs. 3,200.

(d) About Rs. 56 lakhs.

(e) Rs. 2 per mensem per house.

(f) Of the 432 houses which have been provided with water supply and sanitary arrangements, 420 have been allotted to the neighbouring collieries for the use of workers.

(g) Yes.

EXPORTS OF BENGAL *Desi* COTTON

*1777. **Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of Bengal *desi* cotton exported to foreign countries out of the total crop of 1950/1951 season?

(b) What is the exporters' purchase price in India and sale price in the foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab:) (a) 5500 bales up to the 14th February, 1951.

(b) Information regarding the exporters' purchase price in India or the sale price in foreign countries is not readily available. Its current market price in India plus the export duty, however, amounts to Rs. 1/12/6 per lb., while sales have been made to foreign countries at prices ranging between Rs. 2/1/11 and Rs. 2/3/9 per lb.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS AT GUNTUR

*1778. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation of handloom weavers waited on the Minister at Guntur during his visit there in January last;

(b) if so, whether they represented to him their difficulties and grievances; and

(c) if so, what were the assurances given to them by the Minister?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The answers are in the affirmative.

(c) I assured the weavers that yarn position would improve from January and more allotment would be made to the States.

REHABILITATION OF EAST BENGAL DISPLACED PERSONS IN MADRAS

*1779. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new batch of 10,000 displaced persons from East Bengal is being sent to Madras State for rehabilitation; and

(b) whether the Government of India have suggested any new scheme to the Madras State for rehabilitating these displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Not immediately.

(b) The Madras Government have submitted two schemes for the settlement of 200 displaced families of fishermen and 300 displaced families of agriculturists in Madras State. These schemes, which are under consideration, will be implemented only if the required number of families are found willing to go to Madras.

EXPORT TRADE IN HIDES AND SKINS

*1780. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the value of export trade in hides and skins the Government of India are having at present; and

(b) which are the countries to which these hides and skins are mostly sent?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). There are no exports of hides and skins on Government account. A statement showing exports of hides and skins on private account and the countries to which they were exported in the last three years is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 18.]

IMPORT FROM PAKISTAN

*1781. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed at present imports from Pakistan of any articles under a general licence or a special licence; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the names of a few important articles for which such a licence has been issued?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes. Sir. The Government has allowed imports from Pakistan of certain commodities both under general and special licences.

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

STATEMENT

List of important commodities recently allowed to be imported from Pakistan under a General licence or a special licence.

(1) Fresh fruits and vegetables by land and air.

(2) Fresh fish; also dry and salted fish into Tripura State and Assam and dry fish from East Pakistan into West Bengal.

(3) Fresh milk and its products (fresh and not preserved or tinned)—by land only.

(4) Raw hides and skins.

(5) Eggs.

(6) Poultry from East Pakistan into West Bengal, Assam and Tripura State.

(7) Gram.

(8) Betel leaves and Betel-nuts from East Pakistan into Tripura State.

(9) Dried chillies and onions from East Bengal into Assam.

(10) Kapok from East Pakistan.

(11) Cotton seed.

(12) Coriander seeds from East Pakistan.

SHORTAGE OF SALT

*1782. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a shortage of salt is being experienced in the city of Gwalior for the last two months?

(b) If so, what are the reasons?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) There was a temporary shortage in January, 1951. A sufficient quantity of salt was despatched and salt is now freely available in Gwalior.

(b) The reasons for this temporary shortage were late receipt of indents from the salt nominees by the Government salt sources at Sambhar coupled with shortage of wagons to clear the rush of indents towards the close of 1950.

CENTRAL ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

*1783. **Shri Naziruddin Ahmad:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the strength of the Central Enforcement Directorate and how it functions?

(b) How many cases of black-marketing have been detected by the Directorate, how many cases have been prosecuted and with what result and how many are pending investigation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The strength of the Central Enforcement Directorate is 7 Gazetted and 48 non-Gazetted Officers. The main function of the Central Enforcement Directorate is to enforce control orders regarding cotton textiles and iron and steel, and to detect contraventions in respect of the control orders.

(b) 1075 cases have been detected by the Central Enforcement Directorate during 1949 and 1950. 295 cases have been prosecuted, out of which 128 have been convicted, 43 acquitted and 124 are still under trial. 190 cases are still pending inquiry.

RETRENCHMENT IN BURMA EVACUEE DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA

*1784. **Shri Chattopadhyay:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the temporary staff attached to the office of the Burma Evacuee Department at Calcutta have been served with notices of discharge from the 1st March 1951 though some of them have been working in the office for more than seven years;

(b) whether any alternative employments have been offered to them;

(c) whether they are eligible for permanent absorption under the new scheme; and

(d) what is the length of service after which a temporary employee is not to be discharged from service according to the present rules?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Presuming that the hon. Member has in mind the staff under the Government of West Bengal for work connected with evacuees from Burma, Malaya, etc., the answer is as follows:

(a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal have served notices of discharge on some staff with effect from the 1st March, 1951, and are making arrangements to absorb them in other Departments of the State Government.

(c) and (d). As the staff are employees of the Government of West Bengal, the new scheme of the Government of India does not apply to them.

PRICE OF TYRES

*1785. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the increase in the price of tyres by 15 per cent. since January 1951;

(b) the gross value of tyres made in India during a year and the increase therein due to higher prices;

(c) the gross value of raw rubber produced in a year in India at the controlled prices;

(d) the gross value of raw rubber produced in India in a year at open market prices now prevailing; and

(e) the estimated stock of rubber available for supply in India at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The tyre

(f) Of the 432 houses which have been provided with water supply and sanitary arrangements, 420 have been allotted to the neighbouring collieries for the use of workers.

(g) Yes.

EXPORTS OF BENGAL *Desi* COTTON

*1777. **Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of Bengal *desi* cotton exported to foreign countries out of the total crop of 1950/1951 season?

(b) What is the exporters' purchase price in India and sale price in the foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab:) (a) 5500 bales up to the 14th February, 1951.

(b) Information regarding the exporters' purchase price in India or the sale price in foreign countries is not readily available. Its current market price in India plus the export duty, however, amounts to Rs. 1/12/6 per lb., while sales have been made to foreign countries at prices ranging between Rs. 2/1/11 and Rs. 2/3/9 per lb.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS AT GUNTUR

*1778. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation of handloom weavers waited on the Minister at Guntur during his visit there in January last;

(b) if so, whether they represented to him their difficulties and grievances; and

(c) if so, what were the assurances given to them by the Minister?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The answers are in the affirmative.

(c) I assured the weavers that yarn position would improve from January and more allotment would be made to the States.

REHABILITATION OF EAST BENGAL DISPLACED PERSONS IN MADRAS

*1779. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new batch of 10,000 displaced persons from East Bengal is being sent to Madras State for rehabilitation; and

(b) whether the Government of India have suggested any new scheme to the Madras State for rehabilitating these displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Not immediately.

(b) The Madras Government have submitted two schemes for the settlement of 200 displaced families of fishermen and 300 displaced families of agriculturists in Madras State. These schemes, which are under consideration, will be implemented only if the required number of families are found willing to go to Madras.

EXPORT TRADE IN HIDES AND SKINS

*1780. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the value of export trade in hides and skins the Government of India are having at present; and

(b) which are the countries to which these hides and skins are mostly sent?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). There are no exports of hides and skins on Government account. A statement showing exports of hides and skins on private account and the countries to which they were exported in the last three years is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 18.]

IMPORT FROM PAKISTAN

*1781. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed at present imports from Pakistan of any articles under a general licence or a special licence; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the names of a few important articles for which such a licence has been issued?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes. Sir. The Government has allowed imports from Pakistan of certain commodities both under general and special licences.

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

STATEMENT

List of important commodities recently allowed to be imported from Pakistan under a General licence or a special licence.

(1) Fresh fruits and vegetables by land and air.

(2) Fresh fish; also dry and salted fish into Tripura State and Assam and dry fish from East Pakistan into West Bengal.

(3) Fresh milk and its products (fresh and not preserved or tinned)—by land only.

(4) Raw hides and skins.

(5) Eggs.

(6) Poultry from East Pakistan into West Bengal, Assam and Tripura State.

(7) Gram.

(8) Betel leaves and Betel-nuts from East Pakistan into Tripura State.

(9) Dried chillies and onions from East Bengal into Assam.

(10) Kapok from East Pakistan.

(11) Cotton seed.

(12) Coriander seeds from East Pakistan.

SHORTAGE OF SALT

*1782. **Shri Ghule:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a shortage of salt is being experienced in the city of Gwalior for the last two months?

(b) If so, what are the reasons?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) There was a temporary shortage in January, 1951. A sufficient quantity of salt was despatched and salt is now freely available in Gwalior.

(b) The reasons for this temporary shortage were late receipt of indents from the salt nominees by the Government salt sources at Sambhar coupled with shortage of wagons to clear the rush of indents towards the close of 1950.

CENTRAL ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

*1783. **Shri Naziruddin Ahmad:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the strength of the Central Enforcement Directorate and how it functions?

(b) How many cases of black-marketing have been detected by the Directorate, how many cases have been prosecuted and with what result and how many are pending investigation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The strength of the Central Enforcement Directorate is 7 Gazetted and 48 non-Gazetted Officers. The main function of the Central Enforcement Directorate is to enforce control orders regarding cotton textiles and iron and steel, and to detect contraventions in respect of the control orders.

(b) 1075 cases have been detected by the Central Enforcement Directorate during 1949 and 1950. 295 cases have been prosecuted, out of which 128 have been convicted, 43 acquitted and 124 are still under trial. 190 cases are still pending inquiry.

RETRENCHMENT IN BURMA EVACUEE DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA

*1784. **Shri Chattopadhyay:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the temporary staff attached to the office of the Burma Evacuee Department at Calcutta have been served with notices of discharge from the 1st March 1951 though some of them have been working in the office for more than seven years;

(b) whether any alternative employments have been offered to them;

(c) whether they are eligible for permanent absorption under the new scheme; and

(d) what is the length of service after which a temporary employee is not to be discharged from service according to the present rules?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Presuming that the hon. Member has in mind the staff under the Government of West Bengal for work connected with evacuees from Burma, Malaya, etc., the answer is as follows:

(a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal have served notices of discharge on some staff with effect from the 1st March, 1951, and are making arrangements to absorb them in other Departments of the State Government.

(c) and (d). As the staff are employees of the Government of West Bengal, the new scheme of the Government of India does not apply to them.

PRICE OF TYRES

*1785. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the increase in the price of tyres by 15 per cent. since January 1951;

(b) the gross value of tyres made in India during a year and the increase therein due to higher prices;

(c) the gross value of raw rubber produced in a year in India at the controlled prices;

(d) the gross value of raw rubber produced in India in a year at open market prices now prevailing; and

(e) the estimated stock of rubber available for supply in India at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The tyre

manufacturers have to use a certain amount of imported rubber over and above the quantity of indigenous rubber available to them. As the prices of imported rubber has increased considerably, the cost of production has also gone up, and so the prices of tyres had to be increased by 15 per cent.

(b) Rs. 10 crores approximately; increase due to higher prices is Rs. 1·5 crores approximately.

(c) Rs. 2·97 crores approximately.

(d) Rs. 11·63 crores, on the basis of the prices prevailing on the 14th February, 1951.

(e) Stocks available with the rubber growers and dealers on 1st February, 1951 were approximately 3,600 tons.

PRODUCTION OF WOOD AND METAL FURNITURE

*1786. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many factories are in India which produce metal furniture; and

(b) what protection Government propose to give to the producers of wood furniture?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) About 33 factories.

(b) No request for any special protection has been received by Government.

IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENCES

*1787. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of import and export licences issued for the period July to December 1950 and the total amount for which they were issued;

(b) how these compare with those issued for the period January—June 1950;

(c) the maximum amount for which single import and export licence was issued during July—December 1950 and the name of the party who got it; and

(d) what is the proposed ceiling figure for import and export licences for the period January—June 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). For July—December 1950, 73,782 import licences were granted for the total value of Rs. 3,23,33 lakhs, as against 40,815 licences for a value of Rs. 2,55,45 lakhs for Janunary—June 1950. Export licences issued during that period were 64,583 against 64,979 export licences issued during January—June 1950. Information regarding the total value of export licences issued during these two periods is not available, as export licences are mostly issued on quantitative basis.

(c) During July—December 1950, the maximum amount for which a single import licence was issued was Rs. 5,35,00,000. This licence for import of art silk yarn was granted to Messrs. Silk and Art Silk Mills Association Ltd., Poddar Chambers, Bombay, to cover the requirements of all their members. Similar information in respect of the highest value of any export licence is not available, as export licences are not issued normally on a value basis.

(d) The estimated export earnings for the period January—June 1951 are Rs. 230 crores whereas the estimated expenditure on commercial imports is Rs. 290 crores. These estimates relate to all items of import and export trade whether they need export and import licences or not. It is not possible to give separately ceilings for those articles for which import and export licences are required.

OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISER

*1788. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of the Office of the Economic Adviser attached to the Ministry of Commerce and the cost incurred on its maintenance;

(b) the publications issued by the above office in the years 1949 and 1950; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the statistical side?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 19.]

(c) With the transfer, with effect from the 1st February 1951, of the main portion of the statistical work to the Cabinet Secretariat, the Economic Adviser's office is now left with statistical work connected with the New Wholesale Price Index, Sample Survey of Retail Trading and Re-classification of Foreign Trade Statistics. It is hoped that the Economic Adviser's Organization will now be able to devote more time to this work.

QUOTA OF CLOTH TO UTTAR PRADESH

*1789. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what was the quota of cloth given to Uttar Pradesh in the year 1949 and 1950?

(b) What is the quota given for 1951?

(c) Are Government aware that the cloth supplied to the State is quite insufficient to meet the demands, if so, how do Government propose to meet the demand?

(d) Has the Uttar Pradesh Government made any representation in the matter?

(e) By what time do Government propose to restore the cut in the quota of cloth to that State?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The monthly gross quota of Uttar Pradesh was fixed in December 1948 at 43,700 bales inclusive of the estimated handloom production of 10,500 bales per month. The net mill cloth quota of the zone is, therefore, 33,200 bales per month. From September 1949, the Government assumed responsibility for the distribution of only two-third of the mill's production for civil consumption, the balance of one-third being allowed through normal trade channels. Thus the present mill cloth quota of Uttar Pradesh is 22,133 bales per month. During the year 1949, 476,310 bales of mill cloth were made available to Uttar Pradesh and 320,777 bales during the year 1950, that is to say, that the zone received 39,693 bales per month during the year 1949 and 26,733 bales per month during the year 1950. *Ad hoc* quotas of cloth amounting to 27,055 and 3,000 bales were granted to Uttar Pradesh during the years 1949 and 1950, in addition to their normal quota of 22,133 bales per month.

(b) The quota referred to above, viz., 22,133 bales a month is likely to continue during 1951. The revision of zonal quotas is likely to be taken up after the 1951 census figures are available.

(c) Government is aware that it has not been possible to supply the States due quota during the year 1950. In order to meet the demands of the States, the Government have now issued a directive to the mills to reserve 60 per cent. of their total monthly packings for civil consumption.

(d) The Uttar Pradesh Government have drawn the attention of the Government of India to the fact that the cloth supply position in that zone is unsatisfactory. In order to assist the zone to some extent, the Textile Commissioner has granted an ad hoc quota of 1,000 bales in February 1951. In addition, the mills in Uttar Pradesh have been directed to deliver their February production to the nominees of Uttar Pradesh as and when they pack it instead of waiting for distribution in the month following the month of production.

(e) During 1950, due to the fall in production of mill cloth on account of the non-availability of suitable cotton, and strike in mills in greater Bombay certain cuts had to be imposed on the quotas of all States. It is not possible to say when a position will be reached which would obviate the necessity to impose any cuts. Now that a directive has been issued to the mills to reserve 60 per cent. of their packings for civil consumption, the situation would be watched and the original quotas of the States restored as soon as mills' packings for internal consumption improve.

ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

*1790. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that notices of termination of services have been served on the staff of the Enforcement Directorate?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Yes, please. But again it has been suspended for the time being.

IMPORT LICENCES

*1791. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prescribed a minimum turn-over of Rs. 50,000 per annum for the applicants applying for import licences as "New-Comers";

(b) whether Government are aware that some persons classed as "political sufferers" are not in a position to invest money in the various businesses run by them so as to secure the minimum turn-over of Rs. 50,000 per annum for import licences; and

(c) whether Government propose to exempt, in deserving cases, the "political sufferers" applying for import licences from the minimum turn-over of Rs. 50,000 per annum and if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Without a minimum of financial resources, no one can really expect to establish himself in the

foreign trade of the country. It has therefore not been considered desirable to waive this condition in the case of any class of applicants. I would add, however, that there are many articles required for the agricultural and industrial development of the country, or for the maintenance of public health which are on Open General Licence for import and can therefore be imported by anybody. Then again, a large number of items are licensed to actual users. It is only in cases where imports are somewhat severely restricted that certain minimum conditions are prescribed for determining the eligibility of an applicant to receive an import licence.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST AND WEST BENGAL

112. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are maintaining the daily or periodical figure of displaced persons passing between West and East Bengal; and

(b) if so, the monthly total number of displaced persons passing from East Bengal to West Bengal and *vice versa* from January, 1950 to December, 1950?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). It has not been possible to maintain daily or periodical figures of displaced persons only passing from West to East Bengal and *vice versa*. Daily figures of passengers passing from West to East Bengal and *vice versa* by train *via* the border stations of Banpur and Bongaon are, however, being maintained from the 7th February, 1950. They include displaced persons, normal travellers and others. The attached statement gives the monthly totals of all Railway passengers for the period 7th February to 31st December, 1950. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 20.]

GRAIN FOR INDIA HELD UP IN PAKISTAN

113. Shri Sivaprakasam: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that nearly 65 wagons of grain due for India are held up in Pakistan?

(b) If so, why and what steps are being taken to bring them into our country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) So far as Government of India are aware, no wagons of grain due for India are held up in Pakistan.

(b) Does not arise.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 28th February, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CONGESTION IN DOCKS

***1792. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that our export trade has been hampered by congestion in the docks of Indian ports;

(b) whether it is a fact that to relieve the congestion, freight charges in some ports have been increased by 25 per cent;

(c) how this congestion varies from port to port; and

(d) what steps Government have so far taken to remove this handicap to our export trade?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Excepting the Port of Bombay where there was congestion in varying degrees from August 1948 to September 1949, there has been no congestion at any of the major ports of India. During the period of congestion at Bombay export trade does not appear to have been affected.

(b) No. Perhaps the hon. Member is referring to the 25 per cent. surcharge which was levied by certain Shipping Lines on freights on cargo consigned to the Port of Bombay. This was done by the Shipping Lines in order to recoup the losses caused to them as a result of delay in the turn-round of shipping and was withdrawn in December 1949.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the position has been affected by the recent fire in the Calcutta Docks?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think it has been affected in any way.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if this congestion is due to lack of handling facilities at the Ports, lack of space or due to too much extra cargo coming in?

Shri Santhanam: As I said, there is no congestion whatsoever at present or for some time past. There was a congestion in 1947-48 and part of 1948-49, soon after the Partition because all the traffic that went to Karachi, came to Bombay and then in those days transport facilities were also rather difficult. There were many contributory causes, but that is a thing of the past. I do not think I need go into details.

Shri Sidhva: May I know if it is a fact that due to better arrangements now prevailing in the Bombay Port Trust, no steamer is allowed to remain in the stream and all the cargoes are discharged promptly?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir.

ELECTRIC LOCKING DEVICE

***1793. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the electric locking device fitted with Banaras Express by Mr. Mukherjee has proved successful?

(b) What is the period during which this Express was run on that line?

(c) Was any ticketless travel detected on this Express?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A factual report on the three months trial of the device has been received from the E.I. Railway. After a preliminary examination of this report it has been decided to consult an Expert Committee before a final decision is taken.

(b) The rake fitted with the device was put on trial on the Howrah-Banaras service between 15th September, 1950 and 22nd December, 1950.

(c) During the trial period 122 ticketless travellers were detected.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the trial was for three months. During that period, was there any theft or any kind of murder on the Railway?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think there has been any murder in that train or any other train during these months.

Shri Sidhva: My question was: Were there any thefts?

Shri Santhanam: I have already said that there were 122 ticketless travellers. I have not with me information regarding thefts.

Shri Sidhva: What was the number of travellers that travelled during that period from which 122 ticketless travellers were detected?

Shri Santhanam: I have got some details regarding the experiment itself but no details regarding the passengers.

Shri Sidhva: May I know who are the Members constituting this Expert Committee?

Shri Santhanam: The East Indian Railway was asked to make the experiment for three months and send us a factual report. They have conducted the experiment and sent us a factual report. This report was examined by the Railway Board Office and we decided that it should be formally examined by a Committee consisting of the Director of Mechanical Engineering Railway Board, the Deputy Chief Controller Standardization, the Central Standards Office and an officer from the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know if Government contemplate to carry out test trials on Express trains to find out whether the device is useful?

Shri Santhanam: That is exactly under enquiry. The usefulness has to be decided by the Expert Committee.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Traffic Rules

***1794. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state if it is a fact that a number of countries follow the American traffic rule of keeping to the right on roads?

(b) Do the Government of India contemplate changing their traffic rule of keeping to the left of the roads?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

Shri Sidhva: May I know which is more progressive, left driving or right driving?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a matter of opinion.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know from the Government's point of view.

Mr. Speaker: The reply is 'No' and that is implied from the Government's point of view.

Shri Sidhva: May I know why we do not follow the world traffic rules but follow the rule of keeping to the left?

Shri Santhanam: I have got a list of 60 countries which are taking the left turn and another 60 countries which are taking the right turn.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is it a fact that some of the traffic Policemen on duty in Delhi are following the American Traffic Rules?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if accidents have increased because both left hand driving and right hand driving cars are allowed to ply on the roads in India?

Shri Santhanam: Generally our traffic rule is that they should keep to the left. That is part of the Schedule of the Motor Vehicles Act.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any intention on the part of the Government to have uniform traffic rules throughout India?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. The traffic rules are uniform throughout India.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the list of these 60 countries will be made available to the Members?

Shri Santhanam: I will make it available to the hon. Members.

Coastal Trade

***1795. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have decided to reserve coastal trade for Indian shipping?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): Yes, Sir. An announcement was made on the 15th August 1950, to the effect that steps would be taken with effect from that date to implement the policy of complete coastal reservation for Indian shipping, so as to secure, if possible, complete reservation within a period of one year.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total annual tonnage of our coastal trade which is carried by Indian Shipping Companies?

Shri Santhanam: The annual tonnage in 1950 is 2,00,595 gross registered tons.

Shri Sidhva: May I know the total number of Indian ships running on the coast and also the foreign ships at present? I want to know when the agreement comes into operation whether the number of Indian ships will be increased or the same number will remain?

Shri Santhanam: At present 79 per cent. of the coastal trade is being carried on in Indian shipping. We expect that this may go up to very near 100 by next August.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know if the three ships being built at Vizagapatam Ship-building Yard will be put to coastal shipping or for foreign shipping?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. The arrangements at present is that they will be used for coastal trade.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, in view of shipping difficulty in foreign trade, if it is considered by Government necessary, to divert this coastal shipping to...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Hussain Imam: The hon. Minister mentioned 'Indian shipping'. Does he mean 'Indian-owned Shipping Companies' or 'those registered in India'?

Shri Santhanam: I mean ships registered under the Shipping Amendment Act of 1948. There, elaborate provisions are made for the licensing of ships especially for coastal trade.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that Indian Shipping companies have submitted a three-year development plan to the Government and demanded an interest free loan of Rs. 15 crores?

Shri Santhanam: I think they have made some representations which are under consideration.

Displaced Persons from Raider Held Areas of Kashmir

***1796. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons who have migrated to States other than Jammu and Kashmir from the raider-held areas of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) whether the children and wards of these displaced persons are given financial assistance for prosecution of their studies in the same manner and on the same terms as are given to displaced students from Pakistan?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) There are about 12,000 displaced persons from these areas in a camp at Yol (Kangra District, Punjab). It is difficult to estimate the number of those outside this camp as no census has been taken.

(b) Yes; in Yol Camp and in Delhi.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the aid given to the children of displaced persons from the raider-held areas of Kashmir is of the same amount which is being given to such children by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri Gopalaswami: Yes.

Lala Achint Ram: What has the Government decided about the rehabilitation of these children-refugees living in the Yol camp?

Shri Gopalaswami: There is a camp now in Nagrota in Jammu. That is being evacuated by the people who are occupying it now. As soon as they have been rehabilitated, it is proposed to move the persons in the Yol camp into that camp.

گیانی جی۔ ایس ۔ مسافر : کیا وزیر جیز کے پریویلیجز جو ہندوستان میں ہیں۔ ایسے سب لوگوں کو دئے گئے ہیں یا نہیں ۔

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Are the privileges given to the refugees in India same for every one?]

Shri Gopalaswami: I said that they were getting privileges and assistance on the same terms as other refugees.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of displaced children from Jammu and Kashmir who are given rehabilitation benefits for study?

Shri Gopalaswami: I cannot say; at one time a census was taken of the families that required assistance for educational and other purposes. About three hundred families were listed and assistance was given. I cannot say that, that exhausts the number who are receiving assistance.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The question was put as to what arrangements have been made for the rehabilitation of the inmates of the Yol Camp. The answer is that they would be moved to Nagrota as soon as it has been evacuated by persons who are already there. I want to enquire whether any rehabilitation arrangements for these inmates of Yol camp have been made, whether they will be rehabilitated in Jammu and Kashmir, or whether arrangements would be made for them in India.

Shri Gopalaswami: The idea now is to make arrangements for rehabilitating these people in the Jammu and Kashmir State. Nagrota camp will be one of the camps to which they would be taken, and then measures will be devised for rehabilitating them in the State itself.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have the Government formulated any plan? May I know whether they would be able to rehabilitate them in Jammu and Kashmir where other persons of those areas are being rehabilitated and whether there are lands enough which could be given to these refugees?

Shri Gopalaswami: The Jammu and Kashmir Government are going into that. We are asking them to devise plans for that purpose.

Shri Kamath: What arrangements are going to be made for these displaced persons so as to enable them to take part in the ensuing elections to the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid I am not aware of the details of the arrangements which the Jammu and Kashmir Government have made in this respect.

Shri Kamath: Have they not consulted the Government of India in this matter?

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

Research in Wool

*1797. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount spent on wool research in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950 (upto the end of December, 1950);

(b) whether there is any Research Institute in Rajasthan, and if not, why not; and

(c) what percentage the production of wool in Rajasthan forms of the total wool production of the Indian Union?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research sanctioned Rs. 87,500 in 1948-49, Rs. 94,000 in 1949-50 and about Rs. 1,00,000 in 1950 (upto end of December). An equal recurring amount as also some non-recurring amount has been sanctioned by the State Governments concerned.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have not been able to open any sheep breeding research station in Rajasthan so far, mainly because this State did not form a constituent State of the Council till last year. However, a scheme for surveying the various breeds of sheep in Rajasthan was sanctioned by the Council in September, 1949 with Jaipur as headquarters. Under the regionalization scheme for sheep and wool development now under consideration, Rajasthan is expected to play an important part as it is proposed to establish a sheep breeding research station in that region.

(c) Rajasthan produces about 17 million pounds of wool every year, which represents 31 per cent. of the total production of wool in India.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know how far the researches carried on have resulted in improving the quality of wool produced?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I can't answer how far it has resulted in improvement. Various research schemes are being carried on and new varieties are being developed.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question is whether there has been any improvement at all on account of the research?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our information is that there is some improvement on account of research.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know whether any research work is carried on in the eastern part of the country, in Bihar, etc.?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have got a Wool Analysis and Sheep Breeding farm in Gaya.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Import of Engines

*1798. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Engines, broad gauge and meter gauge, which have been ordered from abroad, and from which countries;

(b) what are the scheduled dates of delivery; and

(c) how many engines will be assembled in Chittaranjan in the year 1951?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information desired is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 21.]

(c) 33 locomotives are programmed to be assembled in Chittaranjan in the year 1951.

Shri Barman: Regarding metre gauge locomotives, the statement shows that the next delivery schedule is not expected before 1952. In view of the fact that the Assam Link stands in dire need of improved traffic, does the hon. Minister contemplate to put on that line a few of the metre gauge engines that have been received?

Shri Santhanam: The locomotives already received have been allotted to the various metre gauge railways according to their needs. Some of these locomotives must have been allocated to Assam also.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the broad gauge locomotives ordered are of the same specifications and design as the high power engines received last, or they are new models?

Shri Santhanam: They are of different types: WP Passenger Engines 300; WG Goods 100; Tank Engines 60. They are three different types.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know whether they are of the old design. Last year, we imported some high power engines. I want to know whether these also are of the same model or of a new model, whether they are from the same manufacturers or different manufacturers.

Shri Santhanam: All engines are made out of old models with new improvements, including the new WP locomotives.

Seth Govind Das: By what time does the hon. Minister think that there will not be any need for importing any locomotives and we shall be self sufficient in this respect?

Shri Santhanam: By about 1954.

Shri Hussain Imam: What is the difference between the number of Engines that were scheduled to come in this financial year and the number which are expected to come up to 31st of March?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the figures up to 31st March. At present, to a large extent, deliveries are more or less up to date.

Shri A. C. Guha: Of the Engines to be assembled at Chittaranjan, are all the parts to be imported or are some parts to be manufactured in the factory?

Shri Santhanam: In the Engines assembled in 1950, all the parts were imported. For the Engines to be assembled in 1951, 30 per cent. of the parts will be manufactured at the Chittaranjan Works and 70 per cent. will be imported. In 1952, 70 per cent. will be manufactured and the rest imported. In 1953, 80 per cent. will be manufactured and in 1954, 100 per cent. will be manufactured.

India's Contribution to F.A.O.

*1799. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the F.A.O. to consider the question of reducing India's contribution to that organization has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are its recommendations?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The Committee appointed by the F.A.O. to consider the question of revision of the Scale of contributions by its Member countries has only submitted its interim report, recommending a scale for adoption in 1951.

(b) According to the interim report, India's contribution for 1951 would have been 4·54 per cent. of the total budget of the Organisation instead of 4·42 per cent. for 1950. India's contribution was however, finally fixed for 1951 at 4·16 per cent., due to the increase in the membership of the Organisation.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Sir, may I know the basis on which these contributions are fixed for the member countries?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is no particular basis for these contributions. It all depends on the total amount of the budget and if the total strength of the Organisation is less, the member countries' share is larger and if the strength of the Organisation is more, then the share of each is less.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: If it depends only on the expenditure to be incurred by the Organisation, then on what basis does each country agree to pay the contribution?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Originally when these contributions were arranged, consideration was given to the basic contributions they were originally making to the United Nations Organisation. From that some proportion was attempted to be fixed for this Organisation.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Why was this Committee appointed? What was the purpose for appointing this Committee?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Among other countries, India was one which said that the incidence of contribution was heavy and that it must be reduced. Therefore the Committee was appointed to review the position.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I know the number of Indians employed in the Secretariat of the F.A.O.?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I am afraid I require notice.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: On what basis did India think that the contribution she was making was high?

Shri Thirumala Rao: When certain member countries opted out of membership, India was saddled with a higher amount; but now it is reduced.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Sir, have Government made any representation for the employment of Indians in the F.A.O.?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes; we have been always pressing that proper proportion of Indian should be employed.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Has the hon. Member succeeded?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are in the process of pressing our claims.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, if the contributions of India and Pakistan have now been separated, so far as the percentage is concerned?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We pay about 4·16 per cent. and Pakistan ·89 per cent.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the amount paid by Government so far by way of contributions?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think it is annually about Rs. 7 lakhs.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, my question has not been properly answered.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

TRAINING IN STAMP DESIGNING

*1800. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to send some artists abroad for training in stamp designing?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): The Government have before them a proposal from Philatelic Advisory Committee to send artists abroad for training. But the Government is not contemplating sending any one in the near future.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the countries to which these artists are proposed to be sent?

Shri Kidwai: It will be decided after we have decided to send them.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What will be the expenditure involved in this proposal?

Mr. Speaker: That will be problematic at this stage, I think.

POST AND TELEGRAPH WORKSHOPS

*1801. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the six-member workshop committee appointed by Government to enquire into the organization of Post and Telegraph Workshops has submitted any report so far; and

(b) if so, what are its recommendations about rationalizing production?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the Report is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 22]

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Sir, may I know if any retrenchment was recommended by this Committee?

Shri Kidwai: The Committee was not appointed to recommend retrenchment.

Dr. Deshmukh: As a matter of fact, has the Committee recommended any retrenchment?

Shri Kidwai: The Committee was appointed to look into the working of the workshops and to decide how they should be worked in future, and they have made recommendations in that behalf. As far as retrenchment is concerned, from time to time, with the consent of the employees, we have been retrenching the employees in the last two or three years.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 1802 has been withdrawn.

SALE OF DAMAGED WHEAT

*1803. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total loss incurred by the Punjab Government in selling the damaged wheat to a party which offered a lower price under instructions from the Government of India?

(b) What was the nature and extent of damage caused to the wheat stocks?

(c) Had any Medical Authority certified that the damaged wheat was unfit for human consumption?

(d) If so, what was that Medical Authority and what was its certificate?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) By selling the damaged wheat at Rs. 5 per maund, to a starch manufacturer, instead of at the offered price of Rs. 8 to a flour mill, the Punjab Government incurred a theoretical loss of Rs. 1,01,061.

(b) A total quantity of 1,367 tons wheat was totally damaged and unfit for human consumption or for cattle feed.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, at what price was the wheat actually sold?

Shri Thirumala Rao: At Rs. 5 per maund.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Could they not get a higher price?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There was the definite instruction from the Central Government that it must be sold only to a starch factory and to none else.

Mr. Speaker: I think this question was once answered; about selling at Rs. 5 and all that.

Some Hon. Members: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I go to the next question.

PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD GRAINS

*1807. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred by Government due to procurement, distribution and other control operation of foodgrains during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): 1948-49 Rs. 40,66,000 1949-50 Rs. 36,11,000 1950-51 Rs. 34,13,000.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, may I know whether the progressive reduction in the cost was due to lesser quantities handled or due to economies effected in the system of procurement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Obviously it is due to the economies effected.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the figures mentioned by the hon. Minister are for procurement, distribution and other control operations or are there separate figures for distribution alone?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not able to give off-hand the break-up of these figures.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, what is the amount spent on the staff employed and what is the amount spent on transport?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I want notice.

Seth Govind Das: Then, may I take it, Sir, that the procurement in spite of the lower cost, has been more or has remained the same, or has it gone down to some extent?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It all depends upon the conditions in the various Provinces and the operations in each Province. Moreover, this question probably does not arise.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if the figures include the cost of the grain lost in transit and in the stores?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No.

Shri Kamath: Sir, is the hon. Minister in a position to give the figures for the total quantities of grains procured in each of these three years?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have been supplying figures to the House. The total procurement now is 45 lakh tons.

Shri Kamath: Is it increasing or decreasing?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Apart from procurement quantity what amount has Government spent in procurement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got the figures.

Shri Sidhva: Is the amount debited to the State Government or the Government of India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: To the Government of India.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether the cost of procurement and distribution given relates only to the Centrally Administered areas or is for entire India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is for entire India.

Shri Karunakara Menon: How much of the expenditure is borne by the Centre and how much by the State Governments?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The amounts I have given are spent by the Centre.

Bridges on River Ken in Vindhya Pradesh

*1808. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the construction of a bridge on River Ken which divides Vindhya Pradesh and closes down all traffic for at least four months in a year;

(b) whether the work of construction has been taken in hand; and

(c) if not, what is the cause of delay and by what time is the construction likely to be completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Roughly Rs. 15 lakhs.

(b) and (c). I would refer the hon. Member to the reply given to his starred question No. 209 on the 21st November 1950.

Shri Dwivedi: The Government of India is doing some other big work in Vindhya Pradesh and is it for this reason that the scheme has been dropped?

Shri Santhanam: The scheme has not been dropped at all. We have conducted surveys. In reply to his previous question we have said that we are going to take up the construction in 1951-52.

Price of Imported Wheat

*1809. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of the imported wheat has gone up;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) the reasons for this increase in cost; and

(d) to what extent this has led to the increase in the price of rationed wheat?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) About Rs. 1/6/- per maund.

(c) Largely on account of increased ocean freight rates.

(d) The increase in the landed cost of imported wheat has not generally been reflected in the retail issue price of rationed wheat in the selected industrial and urban areas where the grain is subsidised under the present scheme of subsidy except in the cities of Delhi, Ajmer and the 4 main cities of Bombay State where the previous prices were artificially low. In other rationed towns where the sale is not subsidised, the price is likely to have risen to the extent of the increase in cost.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In view of the fact that the price of rationed wheat has gone up, will the Government reconsider the procurement price?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the price of wheat in the rationed areas of Travancore-Cochin Union has been raised by 25 per cent. more than the previous rate?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any such rise.

Shri Hussain Imam: What is the proportion which this Rs. 1/6/- increase in price bears to the price of rationed foodgrains?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In certain States it was Rs. 15/10/- and it has gone up to Rs. 16/6/-.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What are the prices of rationed wheat? Do they bear any relation to the cost price?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Hypothetical questions are put so many times regarding the increase in price of rationed commodities.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I wanted to know whether the price charged is on a no-profit and no-loss basis or on some hypothetical basis?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Where we are subsidising we are actually losing.

Shri Hussain Imam: The price of foodgrains has been increased by 25 per cent. He says that it has increased only from Rs. 15/10/- to 16/6/-. What is the position today—whether the price of rationed articles has been increased by 25 per cent. or by only Rs. 1/6/-?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I will have to examine the exact percentage.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What has been the increase in shipping freight?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In certain cases it has gone up by 75 or 80 per cent. and sometimes even more.

Production of Pepper

*1810. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of pepper in India in each of the years 1949 and 1950 and also the total acreage under cultivation and the states in which they are cultivated;

(b) how the yield compares with that in Indonesia;

(c) the steps, if any, taken to increase the yield; and

(d) whether there is a scheme for establishing a Pepper Board?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 23].

(b) The average yield of pepper at present in India is about 357 lbs. per acre as compared with 390 lbs. per acre on European plantations in Indonesia in 1940. Later information in regard to Indonesia is not available.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a six years' scheme beginning from the 1st April, 1949 for the establishment of a Pepper Research Station to undertake research on various aspects of pepper cultivation, e.g. evolution of higher yielding strains, control of pests and diseases, proper methods of cultivation and manuring etc. with a view to increase the yield. The scheme has started in Taliparamba where preliminary work has been done. The Research Station is proposed to be established at Mattanur where arrangements are being made to acquire land and to provide facilities for the purpose.

(d) No.

Shri Alexander: Which is the State which produces the highest quantity of pepper?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The State from which the hon. Member hails.

Shri Alexander: Why is it that the research station has not to be started there?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our officers and experts have gone into the matter and fixed upon a place which is most suitable for this station.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is the Minister aware that through the research station the pepper-growing area has not got any benefit at all?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The research station is intended to benefit the pepper-growing areas.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What is the annual production of pepper in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In 1949-50 15,000 tons and the cost was Rs. 1,369 lakhs.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What are the present prices of pepper in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: As I cannot be exact I am unable to give the figures now.

Shri Alexander: How much export duty was collected last year on pepper?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The gross amount in 1949-50 was 64 lakhs. In 1950-51 it was 214 lakhs.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the high prices prevailing in America may I know whether the Government intend to increase the export duty?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The question must be put to the Commerce Ministry.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What is the basis on which the export duty on pepper is levied at present?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am told that it is on an *ad valorem* basis.

Shri Alexander: Is it the intention of the Government to have a Pepper Committee just like the Cocoanut or Arecanut Committee?

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the present there is no such intention.

Withdrawal of a Criminal Case by Government

*1811. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether the legal opinion was taken before the withdrawal of a criminal case against the ex-Revenue Minister of Vindhya Pradesh in connection with the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi collections?

(b) If so, was it in favour of the withdrawal?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Shri Dwivedi: Why did not Government try to get such legal advice before the prosecution was taken up?

Shri Gopalaswami: There was some legal opinion taken before the prosecution was launched but after receiving a representation in the course of the

inquiry in court the matter was re-examined and legal opinion at a very high level was taken.

Shri Sondhi: When was the order issued?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if funds amounting to 60 per cent. of the Gandhi Memorial Fund have since been ordered to be deposited back by the ex-Minister concerned?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no information from official sources to that effect.

Shri Dwivedi: Who were the persons who gave the opinion in favour of withdrawal?

Shri Gopalaswami: I said legal opinion at the highest level.

Shri Dwivedi: Were they some Government authorities or Government experts or some of them were from the public also?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sondhi: Can I have the date of the order relating to the withdrawal of the case?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have not got the exact date here. I believe it was sometime in December or January that instructions were issued for the withdrawal of the case.

Shri Sondhi: Was it after the 15th December?

Shri Gopalaswami: Well, the formal order may have issued after that date.

Shri Kala Venkatarao: May I know whether a demand was sent by the States Ministry to the All-India Congress Committee to refund a portion of this Gandhi Smarak Nidhi collection which was given to the funds of the All-India Congress Committee?

Shri Gopalaswami: I should like to have notice of that.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the authorities of the Gandhi National Memorial Fund both at the centre and in the States were asked to give proof of this embezzlement

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know if any specific reference was made, but both the bodies referred to were quite aware of the fact.

Shri Dwivedi: What I wanted to know was when the case was withdrawn which was instituted at the instance of the Gandhi National Memorial Fund Committee, why that Committee was not given sufficient proof in connection with the prosecution.

Shri Gopalaswami: Well, all the evidence that could be had from that Committee and those connected with it was recorded by the investigating officers before the charge was launched.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the order of withdrawal was conditional or unconditional and what was the expense incurred in the prosecution?

Shri Gopalaswami: There was no condition attached to it. The counsel appearing for the prosecution in the court put in an application under section 494 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The court consented to the withdrawal and therefore the case was withdrawn.

Shri Kamath: On what date was the charge-sheet against the ex-Minister put up in a court, and in that charge-sheet what was the amount alleged to have been embezzled?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think there were three items put before the court totalling Rs. 1,500.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the court in which the prosecution was going on was in favour of its withdrwal?

Shri Gopalaswami: It consented to the withdrawal.

GRANTS TO VINDHYA PRADESH

*1812. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of annual subsidies, grants or other payments which are being made monthly or annually by the Vindhya Pradesh Government to (i) organisation at Kundeshwar in Tikamgarh; (ii) Shri Gandhi Bhawan, Chhatarpur and (iii) the Orphanage in Rewa;

(b) whether Government have any machinery to check whether the moneys so given are utilised for the purposes for which they are intended; and

(c) what kind of work is in progress in each place and what is the number of trainees at each centre?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (c). The Gandhi Bhawan, a cultural and literary institution at Kundeshwar in Tikamgarh, was functioning under the guidance of Shri Banarsi Das Chaturvedi and was maintained by the Vindhya Pradesh Administration at an annual cost of Rs. 24,000 but with the resignation of Shri Banarsi Das Chaturvedi the institution has closed down: a proposal for starting a basic training Centre is under consideration. The Gandhi Bhawan at Chhatarpur is a purely private institution and no Government grant is being made to it. Training in spinning and the propagation of Mahatma Gandhi's ideals are its main objects. The Orphanage at Rewa conducts training in crafts such as carpentry, tailoring, weaving, and the like. A small agricultural farm and vegetable garden is also maintained by the inmates who number 45. A grant of Rs. 6,000 is being made by Government annually. The Orphanage is open to inspection by the Education Department.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know the amount of expenditure which has been incurred in connection with the institution at Tikamgarh at the instance of the Government?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no information.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the working of the institution run at Government expense has been seen by Government officials and whether its works was proceeding satisfactorily?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am sorry I have no reports on that.

Shri Dwivedi: When the question was put, I think I was entitled to this information?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He need not argue. He was allowed to ask—being entitled is something for the Chair to decide.

Shri Dwivedi: This is basic information which the hon. Minister must have furnished.

RAILWAY PASSES FOR M.PS.

*1813. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government are considering any proposal to issue First class Railway passes to all Members of Parliament valid all over India?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): No.

Shri Sivaprakasam: May I know whether some Members of this House who are members of the Central Advisory Council for Railways are enjoying first class free railway passes at present?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. The fact is that some of the members of the Central Advisory Committee are also members of the local advisory committees in the various Railways. As members of local advisory committees, they are given passes to go about in that particular Railway administration and inspect all kinds of railway establishments. They get passes within the Railway administration—they do not get a general pass for the whole country.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government have considered the question of the amount to be saved by the grant of such passes?

Shri Santhanam: We have not considered the question at all.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Has a news item come to the notice of the hon. Minister that the Government is going to issue silver passes to Members of Parliament?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He has already replied to it.

Shri R. Velayudhan: But a news item has appeared?

Mr. Speaker: Newspapers may print anything.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the reason that a certain set of Members are being allowed this facility and others are rejected this facility?

Mr. Speaker: He has already replied to that.

Shri Dwivedi: He has stated that some Members are being given the facility.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member did not hear the reply properly.

Shri Dwivedi: I could not understand from the Minister as to why this facility has not been considered suitable in the case of other Members.

Mr. Speaker: Which other Members?

Shri Dwivedi: The rest of the Members of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: The question was whether all members of the Central Advisory Council are being given free passes. To that the reply was that all members were not being given but only those who are members of local advisory committees were being given passes; and there too the passes are restricted only to the particular Railways to which they are attached as members of the advisory committees. Then what is the further question on that?

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether Government have any intention to consider this question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

LOCOMOTIVES

*1814. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the total number of locomotives in working order today?

(b) What is the number required by India?

(c) How and from where they are proposed to be obtained and at what cost?

(d) Is it a fact that the Kunzru Committee had come to the unanimous conclusion that we had excess of 1500 locomotives in India at the end of 1948?

(e) Have any efforts been made to verify the above finding and if so, with what result?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The average number of locomotives in working order on all gauges on Indian Railways at present is estimated at 6,845 but there are, in addition, about 1,490 locomotives on an average that are under or awaiting repairs.

(b) To move the present level of traffic, both passenger and goods, it is estimated that a daily average of about 7,000 locomotives in good working condition will be adequate. To this, however, must be added provision for engines undergoing repairs, which will depend upon their average age and condition.

(c) It will not be necessary to increase the total holding of locomotives to deal with the present level of traffic if the average age and condition is improved. Any appreciable increase in traffic will, however, necessitate additional locomotives to move it.

(d) No—the Kunzru Committee commented upon the utilisation of locomotives and did not express views on the total numbers required by Indian Railways.

(e) Does not arise.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the number of locomotives which the Railways are likely to require in the immediate future, especially during the course of the year, and what steps are being taken to obtain them?

Shri Santhanam: All that information is given in the papers distributed with the Budget.

Shri Sidhva: Out of the total number of locomotives in working order, how many are broad-gauge locomotives?

Shri Santhanam: Here again I have not got the detailed information. If the hon. Member so desires, I can give all the information during the Budget debate.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many engines have gone out of use since 1948?

Shri Santhanam: Does the hon. Member want the number of engines which have gone out of use owing to over-age or other causes? In any case, I require notice.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Engines which cannot be of any use for any reason.

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, he has not got the figures.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the recommendations and submissions made by the Kunzru Committee were examined by Government and if so what is the conclusion that Government have come to? I refer to the possibility of utilising the existing locomotives in preference to obtaining new ones from outside.

Shri Santhanam: Our present policy is that though we have put the average life of a locomotive at forty years we utilise every locomotive to its utmost capacity and to condemn it only on a 'condition' basis. Therefore, the policy that we are pursuing is wholly in accordance with the Kunzru Committee recommendations.

Shri Massey: Is there any special reason for this high percentage of engines under repair?

Shri Santhanam: Over-age is one of the reasons. There were other reasons like intensive use during war-time and difficulties of getting spare parts during war-time. We are making every endeavour to bring the percentage to the lowest possible minimum.

Shri Massey: Is it a fact that we have a larger number of locomotives replaced in the last five years as compared to the last twenty years?

Shri Santhanam: During the war, the locomotives were put to a far more intensive use than at any other time and the hon. Member knows that repairs are dependent on usage.

Shri T. N. Singh: How many of these locomotives are over thirty years of age?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many engines have deteriorated on account of bad fuel?

Mr. Speaker: Can he give the figures separately?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir.

Pandit Kunzru: Did the Indian Railway Inquiry Committee point out that the utilisation of locomotive power varied inversely with the number of locomotives in 1941-42 and in 1946-47?

Shri Santhanam: The hon. Member is fully aware of the recommendations of his Committee.

Pandit Kunzru: The point is this, Sir. The Committee said that the number of locomotives had increased on the broad gauge by 14.8 per cent. between 1941-42 and 1946-47 and that the number of engine miles had declined by about 13.8 per cent. in the same period.

An Hon. Member: But what is the question?

Shri Santhanam: All these figures are in the Report, Sir.

TRUNK TELEPHONE CALLS

*1815. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fixed time trunk telephone Calls on Calcutta can be booked from Madras but not from Bangalore; and

(b) whether it is not possible to arrange for the booking of fixed time trunk Calls on Calcutta from Bangalore also?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) No. Fixed Time Calls are not practicable between places which are not connected direct with each other. Besides, the circuits between Madras and Calcutta are congested and additional fixed time calls cannot be given without detriment to other traffic.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know what is the present arrangement for trunk calls to Calcutta from Bangalore?

Shri Kidwai: They go *via* Madras.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Would it not be possible to add on the calls from Bangalore to the calls that are put from Madras during these fixed hours?

Shri Kidwai: No, it is not possible. As I have said, the circuits are already over-congested.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Will Government make any arrangement for reducing the congestion?

Shri Kidwai: It is being constantly done.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the 'immediate calls' that exist at present for short distance stations, say between Delhi and Agra, will be extended to long distance stations also?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, as soon as more circuits are available.

UNIVERSITY FOR P.E.P.S.U.

*1816. **Sardar Sochet Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Patiala and East Punjab states Union for setting up a University in that State?

(b) If so, have the Government of India accorded their sanction to the above proposal?

(c) In case the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for withholding the necessary sanction?

(d) Do Government propose to lay on the Table of the House all the correspondence on this subject that has so far passed between the Government of India and the P.E.P.S.U. Government?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The matter is under examination.

(d) Not at present.

Sardar Sochet Singh: Is it a fact that both the Ministers of the Caretaker Governments of PEPSU have made divergent recommendations on this issue?

Shri Gopalaswami: They have made a representation. They have reminded us about it. Recently a discussion was held in the States Ministry with the Chief Ministers of both PEPSU and East Punjab. They have been asked to explore the possibility of a common University for the two States. This exploration has not yet been completed. As soon as it is completed, we shall take the matter in hand.

Sardar Sochet Singh: How long will Government take to come to a decision in this matter?

Shri Gopalaswami: It depends upon how long the two Chief Ministers take.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What amount will this scheme cost the Government; will the cost be met

by the Central Government or by the State Government?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is yet too early to say anything about such matters.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the estimate?

Mr. Speaker: He has said that it is too early.

ELECTRIC TRAINS

*1819. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal by the Government of India to run electric trains from the Vijayawada Railway Station to a distance of about forty miles in any or all directions?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The reply is in the negative.

COURT OF ENQUIRY *re* EXPLOSION OF S.S. *Indian Enterprise*

*1820. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Court of Enquiry appointed by the U.K. Government has concluded its investigation into the explosion of S.S. "Indian Enterprise" in the Red Sea last year;

(b) if so, what are its findings and conclusions;

(c) whether Government have received any petitions from widows, children, or other dependants of the victims of the explosion; and

(d) if so, what compensation has been awarded in each case?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. The formal investigation into the casualty was held in London on the 8th, 9th, and 10th January 1951.

(b) Government have not yet received the full proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, which are under print, by the U. K. Ministry of Transport, and will not be available for some time. A Press Note was issued by the U. K. Ministry of Transport on 30th January 1951. An extract from the Press Note giving its findings and conclusions is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 24.]

(c) Yes.

(d) 73 members of the crew including Officers and Cadets lost their lives in the explosion. Of these 16 cases are reported to be outside the scope of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, but the matter is under consideration. A number of officers were of British domicile and it is reported that their dependants have submitted claims in the U. K. As regards the remaining 51 cases, a statement showing the amount of compensation awarded in each case is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 25.]

Shri Kamath: Was, Sir, any officer associated with the U. K. Court of Inquiry on behalf of the India Government?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir, Somebody from the High Commissioner's office was associated.

Shri Kamath: May I know how many applications or petitions have been submitted in all by the dependants of the victims of the explosion?

Shri Santhanam: I have already stated that in the case of 51 persons claims have been awarded and in the case of 16 persons the matter is still under consideration. Some people have applied direct to the U. K.

Shri Kamath: How is it that some applied here and some to the U. K.?

Shri Santhanam: The ship itself was registered in the U. K. and some officers were Britishers. Naturally, they would like to claim from their own Government, thinking that they might get better terms.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

LIGHT HOUSES

*1804. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a large number of light houses in this country require improvement and modernisation?

(b) What will be the total expenditure for the renovation of the light houses?

(c) When do Government propose to take up the work?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Expenditure on a comprehensive Scheme of improvement, modernization and necessary additions in lighthouses and other aids will be of the order of rupees one and a half crores.

(c) The work has already commenced.

SHIPPING CORPORATION

*1805. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ships possessed by the Government sponsored Shipping Corporation and their tonnage;

(b) Whether the appointment of Managing Agents for the Corporation has been finalised; and

(c) Whether the Corporation is a fully Government-owned concern or it is a private Government concern?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The Government sponsored Shipping Corporation, known as the Eastern Shipping Corporation, Limited, possesses at present two owned cargo vessels, s.s. "West Bengal" and s.s. "Bombay" and one chartered cargo-cum-passenger vessel, s.s. "Jalagopal". The tonnage of these vessels is as follows:

(i) s.s. "West Bengal"—7,216 gross.

(ii) s.s. "Bombay"—7,217 gross.

(iii) s.s. "Jalagopal"—5,322 gross.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., Bombay, have been appointed as the Managing Agents of the Corporation.

(c) The Corporation is a partially owned Government concern in which the Government of India hold 74 per cent. of the capital and have majority control, and the balance, 26 per cent., is held by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Limited.

CONSTRUCTION OF A FACTORY AT ONDAL

*1806. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the construction of a factory at Ondal in West Bengal for the manufacture of the under structures of wagons and coaches is under consideration of Government; and

(b) If so, the approximate time when decision will be taken about the matter?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The conversion of the Repair Workshop at Ondal for the manufacture of bogey underframes was recently under consideration by Government.

(b) It has now been decided not to proceed with this project.

REGROUPING OF RAILWAYS

*1817. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the stage of progress of the proposal for re-grouping of Indian Railways;

(b) whether a representation from the Government of Assam has been received objecting against the re-grouping of Assam Railways with other Railways; and

(c) if so, what attitude have the Government of India taken towards the proposal *vis a vis* the opinion of the State Government of Assam?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) It has been planned to regroup the Indian Railways into six zones and it is proposed to place the details of each zone before the Central Advisory Council for Railways for consideration before implementation. The formation of the Southern Railway from 1st April 1951 has been unanimously approved by the C.A.C.

(b) Yes.

(c) Careful consideration has been given to the proposal of the Government of Assam, but in view of the natural flow of traffic, economic unity of the contiguous regions and efficiency of railway operation, the Government have found no reason to alter their plan. The matter will, however, be considered more fully when the detailed proposal for that zone is placed before the Central Advisory Council.

RAILWAY WORKSHOP AT BANGAIGAON (ASSAM)

*1818. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to establish a railway workshop at Bangaigaon (Assam); and

(b) if so, whether the project has been dropped and if not, when the work will be started?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) The original project for a major repair workshop to deal with locomotives, carriages and wagons has been dropped for the present but work on a smaller repair and servicing depot for coaching stock only at Bangaigaon is in progress.

PRODUCTION OF JUTE

*1821. **Shri Himatsingka:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute of different varieties produced in India during the season 1950-51;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to a recent estimate of Government, production would be over 40 lakh bales;

(c) whether Government are aware that actual production is below 20 lakh bales; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, how it is that Government's estimates were exaggerated?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) 20.8 lakh bales of Capsularis variety and 11.5 lakh bales of Olitorius variety, making a total of 32.3 lakh bales.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

RECLAMATION OF LAND IN THE PUNJAB

*1822. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of acres of waste-land that has been brought under cultivation during the year 1950-51 in the State of Punjab under the scheme of 'Grow More Food' campaign; and

(b) the additional amount of food which this cultivation has brought to the State?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The total culturable waste land brought under cultivation in Punjab (I) during 1950-51 (i.e. from 1st July 1950 to 31st January, 1951) with the help of tractors is 4,956 acres.

(b) 2,185 tons.

PRICE OF *Gur*

*1823. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that *gur* is being sold in different States at prices higher than those fixed by Government;

(b) whether Government contemplate to raise the price of *gur*; and

(c) if not, what other steps Government are going to take to check the rise in price?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) State Governments have been instructed to freeze stocks of *gur* at or below the ceilings and distribute these at controlled prices through Co-operative Societies or ration shops. Effective action has been taken by several State Governments in this respect.

AMALGAMATION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MINISTRIES

*1824. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the saving in expenditure as a result of amalgamation of Food and Agriculture Ministries into one Ministry;

(b) the number of officers, clerks and class IV servants retrenched due to amalgamation;

(c) what steps Government have taken to remove overlapping of certain activities and for coordinating work;

(d) what steps Government have taken for implementing reports of the Patel Committee;

(e) what was the number of advisers attached to both the ministries in 1949, 1950 and what is the present number; and

(f) what money these ministries spent on publicity in 1949 and 1950 and what is the present position regarding staff and expenses as regards publicity?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Savings have been effected in the Ministry in consequence of the merger as well as of certain measures of re-organisation. Approximately 4½ lakh rupees will be saved.

(b) (i) Gazetted Officers.—12.
(ii) Non-gazetted staff.—101.
(iii) Class IV servants.—13.

(c) Common items of work in both the wings of the Ministry *viz.* co-ordination matters, Standing Advisory Committee, Standing Finance Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Receipt, Typing and Despatch, common services such as arrangements for accommodation (office and residential) furniture, telephones, staff cars etc. have already been unified. There will also be common arrangements for arranging movement of grain and other supplies.

(d) The recommendations of the Committee were implemented as far as possible. A statement showing the steps taken by the two Ministries is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 26.]

(e) 33 in 1949, 32 in 1950 and 20 at present.

(f) Rs. 16,847 in 1949-50 and Rs. 70,361 in 1950-51.

The staff employed on publicity work at present consists of 5 gazetted and 13 non-gazetted officers the annual cost of which is Rs. 20,000 (approximately).

ASSAM RAIL LINK

*1825. **Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the percentage of goods carried from the State of Assam by the Assam Rail Link as compared to goods carried by other forms of transport?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): During the last quarter of 1950 the percentage of total goods traffic carried from Assam by the Assam Rail Link was approximately 55.

RADIO LICENCES

114. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of radio licences in each postal zone existing in 1950; and

(b) the number of such licences in each of the States?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement showing the number of radio licences in each Post and Telegraph Circle existing on 31st December 1950 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 27.]

(b) Statistics are not maintained State-wise.

RAILWAY STATIONS IN CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY

115. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in greater Calcutta (including Howrah and the suburban industrial areas within the administration of 24 parganas) and greater Bombay during the year 1949-50;

(b) the number of tickets sold and the total value realized from such sale in greater Calcutta and greater Bombay in the same year; and

(c) the volume of and freight charges realized from parcels and goods booked in those stations in the same year?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 58 in Greater Calcutta and 57 in the greater Bombay as per list attached. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 28.]

(b)

	No. of tickets sold.	Value realised Rs.
Greater Calcutta	2,62,99,139**	57,172,886
Greater Bombay.	27,38,01,746**	56,984,290

**Includes sales of season tickets each monthly season ticket being computed as 50 single journey tickets, following normal statistical procedure. The sales of season tickets in Bombay are greatly in excess of the sales in Calcutta. The following are details for 1949-50.

	Bombay	
	1st class	3rd class.
Total sales of season tickets.	2,30,131	29,83,660
Total.	32,13,791	

	Calcutta.		
	1st class	2nd class	3rd class
Total sales of season tickets.	3,812	351	2,15,886
Total.	2,20,049		

(c)

	Weight booked. (Tons)	Freight earnings. Rs.
Greater Calcutta	Parcel —76,535	94,66,421
	Goods 26,68,430	9,47,68,098
Greater Bombay.	Parcel (figures not available)	90,38,861
	Goods 23,32,900	6,00,34,329

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT DEHRA DUN

116. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the re-organisation scheme of the paper and cellulose section of the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun has been implemented;

(b) the expenditure incurred up till now for the re-organisation; and

(c) whether the installation of the new pilot plant has been completed?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) At the instance of the Experts Committee appointed by the Government of India, the Standing Finance Committee approved (April 1948) of the scheme of the re-organisation of the paper Branch at Forest Research Institute involving an expenditure of:

(i) Rs. 30 lakhs non-recurring.

(ii) Rs. 3 lakhs recurring.

Plant to the extent of Rs. 13,18,630 has already been bought and received at the Institute. In the context of the extreme financial stringency the progress has been slowed down. Provision for buildings and the remaining machinery has been made for 1951-52 amounting to about Rs. 10 lakhs. It is hoped that the Pilot plant will be set up in the coming financial year, provided the remaining machinery is made available in time.

(b) Rs. 13,18,630.

(c) No.

TELEPHONE FACTORY AT BANGALORE

117. Dr. M. M. Das: (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether the construction of the Telephone Factory at Bangalore has been completed?

(b) What is the total number of telephones assembled in the factory up till now?

(c) How many parts, out of what total number of parts, are now manufactured in the factory?

(d) What is the total number of Europeans, employees of Messrs. Automatic Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd., are working at present in the factory?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) No, but it is expected to be completed by September 1951.

(b) 24,258.

(c) 355 out of 365 parts of which a telephone consists, are now being manufactured in the factory.

(d) Eight.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 1st March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PARAM VIR CHAKRAS

*1826. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Param Vir Chakras granted so far; and

(b) the names of officers and soldiers receiving it?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Four.

(b) (1) No. IC-521 Major Somnath Sharma, 4th Battalion Kumaon Regiment (Posthumous);

(2) No. SS-14246 2nd/Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane, Engineer;

(3) No. 27373 Naik Jadunath Singh, 1st Battalion Rajput Regiment (Posthumous); and

(4) No. 22356 P/L/NK Karam Singh, M.M., 1st Battalion Sikh Regiment.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Param Vir Chakra is completely equivalent to V.C. so far as the order of precedence is concerned, and, if not, whether Government propose to assign it the same place?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The Param Vir Chakra is the highest of decoration in the country, but it happens to carry precedence only as far as decorations are concerned. The V.C. in the United Kingdom is the first both in the order of decorations and of precedence. I would be happy if the House will take this matter up and place the Param Vir Chakra first in the order of precedence.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the monetary benefits accruing to its recipients are analogous to the benefits which accrue to the recipients of V.C.?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Sir, the benefit is awarded both to the V.C. and the Param Vir Chakra almost on the same level. In the case of Param Vir Chakra it is Rs. 50 a month. In the case of V.C. in the U.K. it starts off with £10 a year but that can be increased to £75 a year in the case of disability or for old age.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government propose to bring the Param Vir Chakra on par with the V.C. so far as monetary benefits are concerned?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The conditions in the two countries are different. Therefore I do not think it is advisable.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government propose to introduce any other Chakra, and, if so, for what distinct purposes?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Awards for acts of gallantry in the face of the enemy comprise of three categories. Besides the Param Vir Chakra there are the Mahavir Chakra and the Vir Chakra. The introduction of Asoka Chakra for act of gallantry, not in the face of enemy, is under active consideration.

Shri A. B. Gurung: May I know whether there is any title equivalent to D.S.O.?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The Mahavir Chakra is intended to be equivalent to the Distinguished Service Order.

Per Capita INCOME

*1827. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the contemplated steps to obtain the income *per capita* in India have been materialised?

(b) If so, what is the income *per capita*?

(c) What was the average income of a citizen in the years 1930, 1940 and 1949?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The House is aware that a Committee to report on the National Income of India has been set up. It is expected that this Committee will submit its preliminary report containing *inter alia* an estimate of the *per capita* income in India shortly.

(c) The information is not available.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether that Committee has already made sample survey of 1,800 villages, and, if so, has the report been submitted to that extent to the hon. Minister?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The result of the survey of village is part of the material for the report of the Committee, and it will be for them to see how much of it should be included in the report. I may add that the Committee is expected to submit their report by the end of this month.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to a report issued by the U.N.O. Statistics Branch stating that India's *per capita* earning is 57 dollars, and, if so, whether the Government of India as a member of the U.N.O. gave that information to them, or whether that is correct?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not remember to have seen this particular report and therefore I am not in a position to say whether India was a party to the Committee which brought out this report. But in any case these reports are based on material which will not be comparable in its comprehensiveness to the material on which our Committee will base their report.

Shri Sidhva: Will he enquire whether this information was supplied by the Government of India, to avoid any complication?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall enquire, Sir.

Dr. Deshmukh: By what time is the report expected?

Mr. Speaker: He said, by the end of this month.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether this Committee is taking any statistics regarding unemployment figures?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think so.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How does the purchasing power of our present *per capita* income compare with the purchasing power of our *per capita* income of the pre-war years?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We do not know what the *per capita* income is. Therefore it is not possible to answer this question.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that the *per capita* income in India is the lowest in Asia?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: All these questions it would be easier to answer after we have received the report of the Committee.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Is there no information available as to how the U.N.O. arrived at the figure of 57 dollars?

Mr. Speaker: It hardly arises. He has already explained the position.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether this *per capita* income that is being calculated by the Committee is only on the basis of sample surveys of various categories of activities of the people or is it on the basis of overall estimates of various types of incomes of people?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Largely I think they depend on the sample survey. But again I would submit that hon. Members will get a great deal of information in regard to the procedure and the material when the report comes out, which will be during this session.

Bill to Control Rent and Eviction in U.P.

*1828. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Uttar Pradesh Government had passed a Bill in March, 1950 controlling rent and eviction?

(b) If so, is it a fact that the President sent back this Bill to the U.P. Government as it related to Cantonments areas and was beyond the scope of the State Government?

(c) If so, what steps do the Government of India propose to take in the matter of control of rents and evictions in Cantonment areas?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Uttar Pradesh Government have already been requested to extend the provisions of the U.P. (Temporary) Control of Rent and Eviction Act to cantonments within that State under sub-section 2-A of section 1 of the said Act.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this Act which was promulgated by the Uttar Pradesh Government has been negatived by the President, that he has refused to sign it on the ground that the Cantonments fall within the purview of the Centre? If that is so, may I know what is the position and whether the Central Government propose to bring in a measure of this kind to protect the tenants?

Major-General Himatsinhji: What has been stated in the first part of the hon. Member's question is correct. With regard to the second part may I read the following statement which will give the full information?

"Notwithstanding that rent control in Cantonments is now a Central subject under item 3 of List I of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, there appears to be no objection to the application of State Acts which were in force on 26-1-50 to Cantonment areas by virtue of article 73(2) of the Constitution. The matter is, however, being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law".

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand that the hon. Minister is going to bring in a Bill in this session? It is already one year over.

Mr. Speaker: He said that the matter is under negotiation with the Ministry of Law, and I presume they will act according to the advice given.

Shri Sidhva. After consulting the Ministry of Law do they intend to bring in a measure?

Mr. Speaker: That will be hypothetical.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how long the tenants of the Cantonment area have remained without any kind of a fixed measure as to what the conditions are? The Act has been enacted in March, 1950. May I know the period the tenants remained without any kind of a measure regarding the conditions?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I want notice of that question, Sir.

Five Year Development Plans for Ajmer

*1829. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state what progress has been made during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 in connection with the various five-year development plans for the Province of Ajmer, *viz.*—

(i) Construction of a hospital of 200 beds at Ajmer;

(ii) establishment of a Tuberculosis Clinic in the Victoria Hospital, Ajmer;

(iii) establishment of a secondary health centre at Beawar;

(iv) establishment of five Primary Health Units;

(v) Improvement of existing dispensaries in Ajmer; and

(vi) Headquarters Health Organisation, Ajmer?

(b) What amount was actually spent during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A statement containing the information asked for is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 29.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know if there is any possibility of any immediate financial aid to the rural dispensaries, which are in a very miserable condition?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think that more perhaps has been done for the rural dispensaries than for any other schemes that were originally planned for Ajmer. All the 8 district dispensaries in the villages have been taken over and necessary additional staff and equipment have been provided. New dispensary buildings at Sawar and Ramsar have been constructed and plans for the construction of staff quarters at some of these dispensaries are also under consideration. Some of the surplus American hospital equipment has been utilized in these village dispensaries.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is there any proposal for starting travelling dispensaries in the rural area?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There is a proposal to have a mobile dispensary in Ajmer, in addition to the one they have already got.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is the hon. Minister aware that in the territory, what were Indian States formerly, good many hospitals and dispensaries are being closed because there are not sufficient funds? Is any effort being made to utilize.....

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the question is outside the scope of this question. It is restricted to Ajmer.

Dr. Deshmukh: It is 'one India' now.

Mr. Speaker: The question does not relate to the whole of India. Next question.

(ii) When he is appointed in India to a post which is not comparable to the post in which he officiated in Pakistan for six months or more, his former substantive pay is protected. He may, however, draw an initial pay lower than his former officiating pay.

Information is not readily available as to the exact number of such exceptional cases. I am confident however that it must be small.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that there are a number of officers who, because of these technical questions having arisen, in regard to the settlement of their salary, have not been able to draw their salaries for more than a year?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question of appointment was what I investigated. As to the question of drawing their salaries actually although they were appointed, I did not think that was contemplated in the question.

Shri T. N. Singh: I put the question whether such Government servants are not getting their salaries according to their grade and cadre in Pakistan.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I did not think there was any difficulty in their actual drawing their salary. It may be a mistake. I thought the question referred to the posts to which they were appointed.

Shri T. N. Singh: In any case, may I know whether Government have received any complaints or representation from such persons in regard to their not getting their salaries?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I understand the hon. Member to mean that although they are appointed—there is no question about their grade and all that—the only question is about their actually drawing the money from the Treasury; I should like to go into the matter, if a question is sent to me privately or through the House.

Lala Achint Ram: Will the Government kindly say how many Government servants there are, who were junior in salary, rank and length of service, to displaced persons, but who have by-passed displaced persons?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Let me be clear about the question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: In the service in India, there have been many people who were junior in service and salary to those who came from Pakistan; still they were preferred to Pakistan-returned people.

Shri Rajagopalachari: That is, some were already in service here senior as compared with those who have come after displacement: and whether any reshuffling has not taken place in favour of those who have just come. I would ask the hon. Member, if he has any accurate figures of such injustices, to give notice of a fresh question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the hon. Minister state if any of the displaced officers coming in the year 1950 have been taken by the Government?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Displaced Government servants in this question meant persons who have come away after being appointed in Pakistan. If any figures as to particular years are put to me, I would have to analyse all that; it would be difficult for me to answer that question from here.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the services of those who were in permanent service, and who have come from Pakistan to India and absorbed in the various departments, have been counted as permanent or they are still temporary?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already answered that comparable posts are found for them and they are appointed. Their previous substantive as well as officiating pay during the last six months have been taken into account. All this would mean that their services are taken into account.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Geological Survey in Madhya Pradesh

*1836. **Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether any Geological survey was made in Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madras?

(b) How many different localities were investigated by Geological Survey and what are the minerals found therein?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) **Yes, Sir.**

(b) Geological Surveys for the whole of Madhya Pradesh and Madras and the greater part of Himachal Pradesh, were carried out several decades ago. In recent years several parts of Madhya Pradesh e.g. Chhindwara, Nagpur, Balaghat, Bhandara, have been taken up for detailed survey. In Himachal Pradesh, in addition to work done in the area in the early years, work has been undertaken during the last 20 years particularly in and around Simla. A party of officers of the Geological Survey has been at work in Madras State since 1941. A statement giving the more important minerals found in these three States is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 31 (I).] A statement listing the reports published by the Geological Survey of India in its memoirs and records containing information regarding geological survey work done in these States, is also placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No.31 (II)]

Shri Munavalli: May I know whether Government intends to acquire these minerals, to what extent and in what places?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Work is being carried on and the list is given in the statement that I have laid on the Table of the House.

Shri T. N. Singh: Besides the detailed surveys that have been made in these areas, may I know whether any mapping has been done in any new areas in these three States so far as Geological survey is concerned?

Shri Sri Prakasa: There is a definite plan according to which these scientists proceed. If there is any indication of these things being found elsewhere, we shall proceed with that.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: How many survey teams are now working, and what is the strength of the teams?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I have already given an indication of the various teams that are working in the various places. So far as the exact number of personnel is concerned, I have only got the rough figures for Madras. A party of Geological Survey consisting of 12 to 20 officers has been at work in that State.

Shri Shiva Rao: With reference to part (b) of the question, may I ask my hon. friend whether there is any truth in the report that promising coal deposits have been found near Mirzapur?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I have no information.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any soil erosion survey has been made in Madhya Pradesh by the Geological Survey people?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That hardly arises out of this question. The hon. Member will please study the statement that I have laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the Government makes any survey of herbs and medicines also along with Geological Survey?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That hardly arises.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know whether it is a fact that Uranium is found in Kurnool District of Rayalaseema in Madras?

Shri Sri Prakasa: There is another question on Uranium. We can deal with this then.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Colombo Plan

*1837. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of official representatives of Commonwealth Countries is likely to be held to consider the details of the Colombo Plan;

(b) if so, the subjects for considerations; and

(c) whether the working of the three year Technical Assistance Scheme through the Council of Technical Cooperation will also be discussed?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) A Conference of official representatives of Commonwealth countries was held recently in Colombo to review the situation after the publication of the Colombo Plan.

(b) and (c). The following subjects were considered:

(i) Action taken since the last meeting of the Consultative Committee on Economic development in South and South-East Asia.

(ii) Progress in the Technical Cooperation Scheme.

(iii) The future work of the Committee and procedure for obtaining financial aid.

(iv) The role of the International Bank.

(v) Participation of non-Commonwealth Governments in the Area.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, may I know whether the Consultative Committee has decided to invite the International Bank to appoint a permanent representative on the Committee, and if so, what will be the functions of that representative?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The Committee issued a press release at Colombo on the 20th February which contains information on this and various other aspects of the consultation. According to paragraph 10 of that press release:

> "The Committee noted with pleasure the statement of the President of the International Bank, that the Bank welcomed

the opportunity to co-operate in the work of the Committee. The Committee expressed the hope that close liaison with the bank would be maintained."

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, may I know whether a suggestion was mooted in the conference by perhaps the British delegates and supported by other participating delegates that there should be periodical conferences of scientists of the participating countries to review the problems connected with the Colombo Plan, and if so what decision has been taken in the conference.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have no information on the details of the deliberations in the conference, Sir.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know Sir, if a representative of the United States Government also was present at the recent conference and if so what is the role that the U.S.A. plays in the implementation of the Colombo Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: A representative of the United States Government did attend as a member of the Committee. He said that his Government in accepting the invitation to attend the present meeting had announced that it welcomed the initiative of the countries participating in the Plan; that the Plan itself appeared to offer a basis for genuine economic progress, and that the United States intended to co-ordinate to the extent possible, the programmes it had undertaken or might undertake in the area with those under the Plan.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, did the Committee formulate any conclusions and will there be any talks at Cabinet level before final decisions are taken?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The work of the Committee was to make recommendations to the Governments in regard to the continuation of this organisation. Therefore, it was not for them to formulate any plans.

Shri B. Das: Sir, may I know if the International Bank would finance the activities under the Colombo Plan or the Government of the U.S.A. or will the two share the amounts needed to give effect to the Colombo Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I cannot take this any further than what was indicated in what I said in answer to the previous question, with regard to the intentions of the International Bank and the United States Government. If they do come in, I do not suppose it will be on any pre-arranged basis of sharing.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, is any non-Commonwealth Government, other than the U.S.A. expected to join the Colombo Plan of the Commonwealth countries?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The representatives of non-Commonwealth Governments who attended as observers, although I am unable to say at this stage whether or not their Governments would participate, stressed their Governments' continuing interest in the success of the Plan.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, may I know whether the American delegate who participated in the Conference while promising all help to the Plan said that due to.....

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member reading out something? If he has got the information, then he need not put the question.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No Sir, I am not reading out any information. It is a question. I want to know if the delegate said that in view of the worsening international situation a substantial part of the international finance of America will be diverted to the military aid programme instead of to the economic aid programme, and if so how is this going to affect the Colombo Plan which is an economic programme?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It appears that the hon. Member has more information that I have on the subject. My information is confined to what I read out just now from the press release.

NATIONAL INCOME COMMITTEE

*1838. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Income Committee appointed by the Government of India has started its work; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in estimating the national income of the country?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The National Income Committee has made considerable progress. Work on all the Sectors has been completed, and a preliminary estimate of the National Income for the Indian Union as a whole was considered by the Members of the Committee and Foreign Advisers, in December, 1950 and January, 1951. The preliminary report will be submitted by the Committee to Government shortly which I hope will be by the end of this month.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, who are the foreign experts who are associated with this Committee?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They are:

Prof. Simon Kuznetz, Ph.D., University of Philadelphia, National Bureau of Economic Research, New York.

J. R. N. Stone, C.B.E., Department of applied Economics, University of Cambridge.

J. B. D. Derksen, Ph.D., National Income Unit, The United Nations' Statistical Office, Lake Success, New York.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, may I know whether the Finance Ministry has prepared its own estimate of the national income and whether that is going to be the basis for the estimate of this Committee?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, Sir. If the Finance Ministry had been in a position to estimate, then they would not have constituted this committee of experts to advise them on it. Some estimates—very rough ones—had been prepared for the old Indian Provinces by various authorities beginning with one by Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao in 1931-1932 and the Ministry of Commerce in 1938-1939. But as I said, they related to the old Indian Provinces.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, I wanted to know whether those estimates would form the basis for making the present estimates?

Mr. Speaker: Let us first have the report of the committee.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, the country has been transformed since then and these related to the old Indian Provinces, as I said.

CINCHONA (CULTIVATION)

*1839. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state what is the Russian method of cultivation of Cinchona?

(b) How does the Russian method prove to be more costly than the ordinary method?

(c) Does the need of Russian method of cultivation exist even now?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A detailed statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 32.]

(c) No. Fresh planting under the Russian method was discontinued at the end of the war. It was an emergency measure intended to produce quinine more quickly than would have been possible under the normal method.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, may I know how this Russian method differs from our methods of cultivation of cinchona?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The hon. Member will find all the information in the detailed statement. Briefly this is a short rotation method and it is also an intensive method of planting and in the long run it is more expensive.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: In which States has this new method been tried?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: In the two States which grow cinchona—Madras and Bengal.

Shri Barman: Are Government aware that there is sufficient possibility of the expansion of cinchona cultivation in West Bengal? If so, is it contemplated by Government to produce more quinine by the expansion of cinchona cultivation?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The question is primarily one for the West Bengal Government to decide. But the hon. Member should remember that there is keen competition now with pure quinine because of the synthetic antimalarial drugs that are being produced and many of the States do not wish to have pure quinine.

Shri Barman: Do I understand from the reply given by the hon. Minister that in the recent past, that is 1949-50 there has been no import of quinine from Java by the Government of India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There was a certain amount of import.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government of India is giving any subsidy to the cinchona industry in Madras and the Nilgiris? What is the condition of the industry at present?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Central Government does not give any subsidy.

COLOMBO SIX YEAR PLAN

*1840. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what steps have so far been taken towards the implementation of the Colombo six year plan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Government are proceeding with the execution of those

schemes included in the Colombo Plan which had already been started within the limit of the resources available to them. Government are also exploring possibilities of augmenting their own resources and of securing the external finance required.

Shri Kamath: May I know if priorities have been assigned by the Consultative Committee for the agricultural, industrial and transport projects that are envisaged in the Colombo Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, Sir. Priority has been assigned by the Planning Commission which was called upon to advise when the Colombo Plan was prepared.

Shri Kamath: Is the Minister in a position to give us an idea of the priorities that have been so assigned by the Planning Commission?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think a reference to the Colombo Plan, copies of which are available in the Library would show the priorities which have been assigned.

Shri Kamath: Has the Government of the United States given any hint or indication that economic aid would be available from that country even in the first stage of the Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think, Sir, that is covered by the answer which I gave previously that they welcome the initiative of the countries participating in the Plan, that the Plan does appear to offer a basis of genuine economic progress and that the U.S.A. intended to coordinate to the extent possible the programmes which they had undertaken or may undertake in the areas under the Plan.

Shri Kamath: At the last meeting of the representatives of the various countries that are participating in this Plan, which meeting was attended by a representative of the U.S.A. was it decided that the Commonwealth countries and the U.S.A. should consult each other throughout the progress of the Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: By the 'last meeting' is it meant the Colombo meeting?

Shri Kamath: Before or after that a meeting was held of the representatives?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The last meeting was the Colombo meeting: that was not a meeting of the representatives..

Shri Kamath: Last month.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The one before that was the one that I attended in London in September. That meeting was not attended by a representative of the U.S.A.

Shri Kamath: The meeting which was attended by the American representative.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is the one to which I have referred.

Shri Kamath: Was any decision taken to the effect that the countries of the Commonwealth must keep the U.S.A. informed about the progress of the Plan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Yes, that is implicit in this participation in the Committee that they will be kept in touch with developments.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any indication has been given that only those countries will be given financial aid which have a long term development plan and not short term plans?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not know to whom reference is made in the hon. Member's question. He said "indication has been given": by whom?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: By the Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan to the participating countries to the effect that only those countries will receive aid which will have long term development plans.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not for the Consultative Committee to indicate who will get aid and who will not. It is for the countries from whom aid is available.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Small Savings Scheme

***1842. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total volume of savings as effected through the small savings scheme during 1950?

(b) What were the comparative figures for 1948 and 1949?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The net amount realised from small savings, including Post Office Savings Deposits, in the three years 1948, 1949 and 1950 amounted to Rs. 31·21 crores, Rs. 22·1 crores and Rs. 29·52 crores respectively.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if the scheme is effectively operating in Parts B and C States?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is being extended to Parts B and C States and so far as rural areas are concerned I do not suppose that it has yet been possible to extend the scheme to them.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is it proposed to utilise the village Post Office as a medium so as to make the scheme yield better results?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is right: that is what I said in my Budget speech yesterday.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the commission agents who were originally appointed and subsequently withdrawn have again been appointed for this purpose?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The authorised agency system has been revived. First as an experimental measure it has been reintroduced only in three States—Madras, Bombay and West Bengal.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Loans and Grants to States

***1843. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what were the repayments received from State Governments during the year 1950 out of the loans given to them before 1950?

(b) Have all State Governments repaid their loans in time?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Rs. 931 lakhs.

(b) Yes, except in regard to certain ways and means advances.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What is the total amount of loans recoverable by the end of 1950 still remains to be recovered?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There are no outstandings, except as I said in regard to the ways and means advances, if I understood the hon. Member's question rightly.

Lala Achint Ram: How much money advanced to the States for loans being given to displaced persons remains unadvanced by the States to the displaced persons?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The question referred to repayment by the States of the moneys received by them from the Centre and not to the utilisation by the States of the moneys advanced to them.

Shri T. N. Singh: Out of these 931 lakhs which have been advanced to the States, how much have the States paid back to the Central Government by taking further loans from the Centre as a sort of conversion loan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have no reason to believe that any of this repayment has been made with the help of further borrowings from the Centre.

Territorial Army

***1848. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state what is the result of the Territorial week observed in January, 1951?

(b) How many technicians and skilled workers have joined the Territorial Army?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The result has been very encouraging. A marked improvement has been noticed in the public response to the Territorial Army, especially in Bombay, Madras, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Technical and skilled personnel are coming forward to join the Territorial Army but not in sufficient numbers. It is not, however, in the public interest to disclose the exact number of technicians and skilled workers recruited to the Territorial Army.

Shri Sidhva: What will be the total number required for this training?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I have already refused to answer that question. But I will be able to give the information in confidence to the hon. Member if he sees me informally.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Selection for Grade I of Central Secretariat Service

***1850. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the preliminary selection for grade I of the Central Secretariat Service was made by the Departmental Promotion Committees of the respective Ministries;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a number of cases, officers considered suitable for the post of Deputy Secretary or Under Secretary by the Ministries were not considered fit for the Secretariat Service by the Special Recruitment Board and the U.P.S.C.; and

(c) whether it is a fact that in a number of cases, Special Recruitment Board placed officers graded V senior to those graded III by the Ministries?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). Yes.

The Central Secretariat Service (Reorganisation and Re-enforcement) Scheme provides that final selection to all grades of that Service would be made by the Union Public Service Commission. In order to facilitate the Commission's task a preliminary selection of departmental officers considered suitable for the various grades was carried out by the Departmental Promotion Committees of the respective Ministries assisted in each case by two Joint Secretaries from other Ministries nominated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Special Recruitment Board and the Commission thereafter interviewed all the candidates who were recommended in the preliminary selection as fit for appointment in Grade I. Five or six Joint Secretaries from the different Ministries who had assisted in the preliminary selection were also present as assessors during the interviews by the Special Recruitment Board. This procedure was designed to ensure full consideration of the claims and merits of all the officers concerned. It has also enabled the Commission in making their final recommendations arranged in a common order of merit to apply uniform standards of judgment, thus eliminating any cases of over-assessment or under-assessment which may have occurred in the preliminary selections made by different bodies in the different Ministries.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The answer to my question has not come from him. It may not be in the public interests to disclose it, but the answer is not there. It has been said that Departmental Promotion Committees were constituted which assisted in recruitment by a preliminary selection of persons for promotion whose names were then put before the U.P.S.C. My question was whether they selected certain persons for posts of Under-Secretaries and Assistant-Secretaries who were not thought fit by the U.P.S.C. for Secretariat service at all. That was my question, that has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: Is it not answered by implication that they did not make the selections but that they only made preliminary selections and left the matter to the U.P.S.C.?

Sardar Hukam Singh: Then I expect.....

Mr. Speaker: He may ask the question if he wants to.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Yes, Sir. May I know whether the Departmental Promotion Committees made any selections at all for any Secretariat posts, or for promotion to senior posts?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have described accurately and as fully as I can the process by which the appointments are made. The question seems to suggest that there was a large difference between the recommendations made by the Departmental Committees and the final selection.

Mr. Speaker: The exact point is that appointment was made without reference to the U.P.S.C.

Shri Rajagopalachari: No, no.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any selections or promotions were made on the recommendations of these Departmental Promotion Committees?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The recommendations of the so-called Departmental Promotion Committees were only recommendations and finally the U.P.S.C's decision is taken as basis for appointment. If there is any doubt on that matter, I definitely say, "No".

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there were any cases of recommendation by any of this Departmental Promotion Committees which were not referred to the Union Public Service Commission but were decided by the Committee itself or, on its recommendation, by the Ministry?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That is to say, whether any appointments were made without reference to the Union Public Service Commission. No, Sir.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that certain persons who were selected by the Departmental Promotion Committees were appointed to certain posts and after the appointments had been made the matter was referred to the U.P.S.C. who rejected these appointments and made new appointments?

Shri Rajagopalachari: If I understand it correctly, the question is whether they were provisionally appointed or not and whether there were rejections by the U.P.S.C. of the recommendations of the Departmental Committee?

Shri Hussain Imam: Yes.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I shall give the figures. There is nothing to hide and I say this as some phrase was used about public interest. Out of 457 officers recommended by the Departmental Promotion Committees, 62 were classed by the Union Public Service Commission as unsuitable. Out of 470 cases recommended by the Departmental Promotion Committees for the various grades of the Central Secretariat service, in 70 cases officers classed by the Departmental Promotion Committees in category V have been placed above certain other officers who were placed by the Departmental Promotion Committees in category III. Where several persons have to appraise the qualifications and equipment and capacity of persons who have to take up responsible posts, this amount of difference of opinion is quite natural.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any new cadre in the Secretariat Service has been created on the recommendation of these Departmental Promotion Committees?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would like notice for that question.

CANTONMENTS COMMITTEE

*1851. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cantonments Committee has completed its work, and submitted its Report; and

(b) if not, how much longer is the enquiry expected to last?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) No.

(b) It is understood that the Committee expects to complete its work by March, 1951.

Shri Kamath: When, Sir, was this Committee appointed and how many meetings has it held uptodate?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Sir, the answer was given some time ago. The Committee was appointed some time in May, 1949—I don't remember the exact date. About eight meetings have been held so far; the last meeting was held about the middle of February this year.

Shri Kamath: What were the difficulties in the way of the Committee meeting oftener than it actually did?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The members of the Committee have to come from distant parts of India and it is difficult to get them together more often as they have to attend to their own important work also.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact that even though the Chairman of the Committee was absent from India there was a Vice-Chairman elected by the members, and why did the Committee not meet under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chairman?

Mr. Speaker: He is now arguing.

झोंपड़ियों में रहने वाले व्यक्तियों का पुनर्वास

*१८५२. **श्री खापर्डे :** स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि:

(क) क्या यह सत्य है कि दिल्ली में सड़कों के किनारे अथवा खुले स्थानों में झोंपड़ियां बना कर रहने वालों के लिए जल, संडास तथा आरोग्य रक्षा के कोई प्रबन्ध विद्यमान नहीं हैं ?

(ख) क्या इन व्यक्तियों से इन स्थानों का जहां इन्होंने यह छोटी छोटी झोंपड़ियां बनाली हैं, कोई किराया लिया जाता है अथवा वह सभी बिना किराये के ही रह रहे हैं ?

(ग) क्या सरकार उनके पुनर्वास की कोई व्यवस्था करेगी ?

REHABILITATION OF PERSONS LIVING IN HUTS

[*1852. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no arrangements for water, conservancy and sanitation exist for those living in small huts erected in the open spaces or by the road-side in Delhi;

(b) whether any rent is charged for the space where they have erected these hutments or are they all living rent free; and

(c) whether Government will devise some means to rehabilitate them?]

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) In most of the places arrangements exist, though they are not very satisfactory.

(b) No rent is charged.

(c) Government have in hand a sector-wise plan for clearing areas of squatters with a view *inter alia* to providing these persons with better accommodation and cleaner surroundings.

श्री खापर्डे : क्या माननीया मंत्राणी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि दिल्ली शहर में ऐसे कितने परिवार हैं जिन के पास घरबार नहीं हैं और वह झोंपड़ियों में रहते हैं ?

[**Shri Khaparde:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of such families in Delhi City who have no housing accommodation and are living in huts?]

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : जहां तक मुझे मालूम है तीस हजार कुटुम्ब ऐसे हैं जिन के पास अब तक उन की बनाई हुई कुटियां हैं और वह उन में रहते हैं।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** As far as I know there are thirty thousand such families who are still living in huts made by themselves.]

श्री खापर्डे : क्या यह बात सच है कि ऐसे लोग दो या तीन साल से वहां रहते हैं फिर भी उनके पर्मानेन्ट राशन कार्ड नहीं बन सके हैं?

[**Shri Khaparde:** Is it a fact that these people have not been issued permanent ration cards although they have been living there for two or three years?]

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : राशन कार्ड के बारे में तो मुझे मालूम नहीं है।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I do not know anything about ration cards.]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Transfer of Ancient Archives

***1830. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply to my Starred Question No. 754 asked on 20th December, 1949 and state at what stage the question of transfer from England to India of the various ancient manuscripts, archives and documents of political and historial interest, preserved in the late India Office Library in London, is pending?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): The position still remains the same as stated in reply to Starred Question No. 754 on 20th December, 1949. It has not yet been possible to arrange a meeting of the Fact Finding Committee for the disposal of India Office building and its contents.

Indo-Pakistan Goodwill

***1834. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have requested the Calcutta University to take steps for the promotion of Indo-Pakistan goodwill;

(b) if so, whether any concrete suggestions have been made to the University; and

(c) whether adequate response has been received by Government from the University?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). The Government of India had addressed the Vice-Chancellors of all the Indian Universities including the Calcutta University, to take suitable steps for the promotion of Indo-Pakistan goodwill, in connection with the implementation of certain clauses of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of 1950. They were particularly asked to take suitable steps to prevent the dissemination of mischievous news and opinion amongst students and teachers by any individual or organisation. They were also requested to issue suitable instructions, to ensure that the reports, magazines and publications produced or used in the University and Colleges, are in accord with the relevant clauses of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement. The Universities were also asked to consider the question of the exchange of students and teachers and the promotion of atheletic contests between the teams of India and Pakistan.

(c) No reply has so far been received from the Calcutta University.

Indian Police Service

***1841. Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many candidates were selected for Indian Police Service in all States during the year 1950-51?

(b) How many of them were Scheduled Castes candidates?

(c) Where are they posted?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) 79.

(b) 2.

(c) Both the Scheduled Castes candidates have been posted to West Bengal.

Colombo Plan

***1844. Shri Biyani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what steps have been taken to see that the Colombo Plan materialises within the time specified and within the estimates provided for the various schemes?

(b) In view of the rising prices in the international market will Government be pleased to state how far they have gone ahead with the executive side of the Colombo Plan?

(c) To what extent have Government been able to get the capital from the external channels as stipulated in the Plan for its execution?

(d) What are the conditions stipulated to such external borrowings of Government and what is the rate of interest fixed on them?

(e) What steps are Government taking to associate capable business talent in the execution of the various projects and schemes as envisaged in the Plan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Government are proceeding with the execution of those projects included in the Colombo Plan which had already been started, within the limit of the resources available to them. Government are also exploring possibilities of augmenting their own resources and of securing external finance to make the full implementation of the Plan within the time specified possible. It is too early to say whether it would be possible to complete the various schemes within the estimates provided for in the Plan. The rising prices in the International Market will unavoidably affect the estimates, but Government will keep the position constantly under review.

(c) Except for the loans negotiated some time ago with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a few projects included in the Colombo Plan, no other capital from external sources has yet been received for the execution of the Plan.

(d) Copies of the loan agreements entered into with the International Bank detailing the conditions attached to the loans negotiated with the Bank have already been placed on the Table of the House and are available in the Library of the House. The rate of interest for these loans varies from 3½ per cent. to 4 per cent. including 1 per cent. servicing charges.

(e) Government have, in certain cases in the past, set up Committees in which business men have been included to undertake the execution and management of the projects. The point will be considered in each individual case as and when Government decide to commence its execution. Over a large range of the projects and schemes the need for such association does not arise.

Dihang Project

***1845. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage the progress of the Dihang Project in the Tribal Areas of Assam has been held up;

(b) when the work will be started; and

(c) what benefits are expected to be received by the cultivators?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Only preliminary investigations of the Dihang Project had been taken up. The state of the investigations at the time they were suspended was as follows:

(i) Reservoir and dam site surveys had been completed and mapping was in progress;

(ii) Gauge, discharge and silt observations at the dam site were being observed;

(iii) Foot path from Passighat to dam site was under construction.

(b) The work will be started as soon as funds become available and the aerial photography of the valley which is being done by the Survey of India, is completed.

(c) This is a hydro-electric and flood-control scheme and the cultivators will be benefited to the extent that their crops will be saved from floods, and rural population will get the advantage of electric power.

U.P.S.C. Examination Centre for Assam

***1846. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of opening a Union Public Service Commission Examination centre in Assam;

(b) whether the Government of Assam has sent any proposal in this connection; and

(c) how many candidates are considered to be sufficient for the opening of a centre for examination for I.A.S. and I.P.S. in Assam?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The question of the desirability of opening a centre in Assam for the Public Services Examination is at present under consideration of the Union Public Service Commission, who conduct these examinations.

(b) The Government of Assam have made a request that a Centre should be opened in Assam for the convenience of Assam candidates.

(c) No minimum number has been prescribed. Several considerations go to make the conclusion as to desirability of opening a Centre and meeting the expenditure involved.

URANIUM IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL INDIA

*1847. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two uranium bearing belts have been discovered in Eastern and Central India; and

(b) if so, when they will be worked out?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A detailed examination of these areas is in progress and a considerable amount of geological and mining work is needed before the actual work of extraction can be commenced.

HOUSE BUILDING SOCIETIES IN DELHI

*1849. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state how many registered Co-operative House Building Societies have been working in Delhi?

(b) What steps are being taken by Government to make necessary allotments of land to such societies?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Seventy-four societies have been registered.

(b) Government do not at present have suitable developed building land of their own for allotment to these societies. The question as to how the Co-operative Societies can be helped to acquire land is being examined.

MAGAZINES, DOCUMENTARIES AND NEWSREELS

*1853. **Shrimati Jayashri:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of magazines published, and documentaries and newsreels produced during the year 1950;

(b) the amount spent and the income earned from these; and

(c) whether the Finance Minister's economy plan advocates a cut in this Section and if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information concerning magazines published by the Publications Division and documentaries and newsreels is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 33.]

(c) I presume that the word 'this Section' refers to Films Division. A proposal for the abolition of the Films Division on grounds of economy was considered and it has since been decided to retain the Films Division.

INDIAN BRAILLE

*1854. **Shri Barrow:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to change the Indian Braille, based on the Sanskrit script, to a new Braille based on an International script;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this change; and

(c) what steps are Government taking to set up a Braille press in India?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

(c) an officer has been appointed to complete all preliminaries in connection with the establishment of the Braille Printing Press and it is hoped that the Press will start functioning by June this year.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES IN CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS

*1855. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government Hospitals and dispensaries in the Centrally Administered Areas;

(b) the number of male and female hospitals;

(c) the number of Government hospitals and dispensaries in the rural areas; and

(d) the number of *Ayurvedic* and *Unani* dispensaries?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The total number of Government Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Centrally Administered areas is 158.

(b) There are no hospitals exclusively reserved for men. There are 51 general hospitals belonging to Government which admit both men and women and 6 exclusively reserved for women

(c) 103

(d) 72.

ELECTIONS TO PARLIAMENT

*1856. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state the number of election petitions filed in connection with elections to Parliament since 26th January, 1950?

(b) Have all the cases been decided?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) One..

(b) Yes.

JUDGES IN HIGH COURTS

*1857. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Judges for different High Courts of Part 'A' and 'B' States:

(b) the number of Judges at present; and

(c) when Government are going to make up the number?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) I presume that the hon. Member is referring to the maximum number of Judges to be fixed under article 216 of the Constitution in relation to each High Court. This is still the subject matter of consultation with State Governments and High Courts.

(b) The actual strength of each High Court is as follows:

Name of High Court	Number of Judges (including Chief Justice.)
Part A	
(1) Allahabad	20
(2) Assam	2
(3) Bombay	11
(4) Calcutta	19
(5) Madras	16
(6) Nagpur	8
(7) Orissa	4
(8) Patna	11
(9) Punjab	7
Part B	
(1) Hyderabad	11
(2) Madhya Bharat	6
(3) Mysore	5
(4) Patiala and East Punjab States Union	4
(5) Rajasthan	9
(6) Saurashtra	3
(7) Travancore-Cochin State	7

(c) The question will arise when the number for each High Court is fixed.

ADVERTISING CONSULTANT OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

*1858. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the expenses incurred by the office of the Advertising Consultant of the Ministry for the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) What are the qualifications and emoluments of the present Advertising Consultant?

(c) Was it an *ad hoc* appointment or through the Union Public Service Commission?

(d) What is the criterion for considering newspapers suitable for purposes of Government advertisements?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIII, annexure No. 34.]

(c) The appointment has been made with the approval of the Union Public Service Commission.

(d) The main criterion for considering newspapers suitable for purposes of Government display advertisements is in circulation along with good standing and coverage.

CULTURAL STUDIES

*1859. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) how many students were exchanged between China and India under the agreement between the Government of India and the former Government of China for cultural studies in the two countries;

(b) whether those students have returned to their respective countries after the formation of the new Government in China; and

(c) whether any talk is going on between the present Government of China and the Government of India to revive the previous, or to conclude any similar agreement?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) 10.

(b) The students returned to their respective countries before the formation of the new Government in China.

(c) Yes. The matter is under consideration.

BARODA AND AHMEDABAD A.I.R. STATIONS

*1860. **Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses involved in the maintenance of Baroda and Ahmedabad Stations of the All-India Radio in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) whether the Directors of the two stations know the regional language, Gujerathi?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) There is one Station Director for both Stations and he has a working knowledge of the regional language, though Station Directors are not required to possess knowledge of the regional language of the Station at which they may be posted. Station Directors are recruited on an All India basis and are liable to be posted anywhere in the country.

STATEMENT

Expenditure on the maintenance of Baroda and Ahmedabad Stations of All India Radio

Station	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	75,157	3,18,125	3,30,100
Ahmedabad	216	2,44,815	2,91,700

FILMS DIVISION

***1861. Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of the Films Division of the Ministry in 1949 and 1950 and the expenses incurred on their maintenance;

(b) the number of documentary films taken in 1949 and 1950 and their cost;

(c) whether any revenue is coming from these films; and

(d) if so, the total amount received in the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIII, annexure No. 35.]

(c) Yes.

(d) 1949 Rs. 4,88,572.

1950 Rs. 19,49,230.

PEONS AND JAMADARS

118. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state how many peons and jamadars are attached to each Minister and his Secretary?

(b) How many peons are attached to each Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretary?

(c) Have Government considered at any time whether this number is justified?

(d) Has any number been sought to be reduced as a measure of economy?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The number of peons and jamadars normally attached is as follows:

Hon. Minister	1 Jamadar	3 peons
Secretary	1 ,,	2 ,,
Joint Secretary	1 ,,	1 ,,
Deputy Secretary		2 ,,
Assistant Secretary	..	1 ,,

(c) and (d). The requirements of peons and jamadars of each Ministry are under review, with the object of securing the maximum possible reduction in these grades compatible with efficiency.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 2nd March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MACHINE TOOLS

***1862. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies producing grade I machine tools in India;

(b) whether the machine tools industry has been suffering due to accumulation of stocks; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Twelve.

(b) Yes.

(c) The machine tools at present manufactured in India are mostly of primary type and the demand for these types of machine tools has decreased due to a general slump in the Small Scale Engineering Industries which are the principal users of these machine tools. There is also a certain preference for imported machine tools still persisting.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government have any estimate of the overall need of grade (I) machine tools in the country, and whether they are in a position to say whether the production of these grade (I) machine tools is in excess of the demand?

Shri Mahtab: The hon. Member will know from the figures of imports that since 1946 up till now, the import of machine tools from abroad has been steadily rising. I could give the money value. In 1946-47, the money value was about 2 crores; today it is about 4,68,44,834. The total installed capacity of the existing machine tools factory is 7894 machines, the value of which would be about Rs. 54,78,000. From these figures it can be easily seen that the manufacture here is far short of the requirements.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the accumulation has in any way been due to the release of Government stock?

Shri Mahtab: I do not think so, because Government themselves are purchasing from the existing machine tool factories. I can give figures. The Railways have purchased for Rs. 4,82,000; Defence for Rs. 42,000; other civil indentors Rs. 1,33,000. As a matter of fact, our Ministry has requested all the departments to purchase whatever they require from the indigenous machine tool factories.

Shri V. J. Gupta: Is it a fact that Indian steel is not so strong for tool making and therefore Indian tools are not selling as good as imported ones?

Shri Mahtab: Indian steel is good enough as any other steel. I have already given the reasons. That is to say, these machine tools were used by small scale engineering industries. Their conditions are not good today and therefore there is no off-take.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government have any control over the production of machine tools?

Shri Mahtab: There is no control.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that the life of these machine tools is lesser very much as compared to foreign imported tools due to the inferior quality of production?

Shri Mahtab: I cannot say that. I have reasons to believe that the machine tools which are being manufactured here are not inferior to imported tools. But, popular belief is that, as the hon. Member says.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have Government given any protection to the Indian machine tool industry?

Shri Mahtab: Yes. The Tariff Board has made enquiries about that and assistance is being given, but no protection. Even then, there is an *ad valorem* duty, 5 per cent. I think, on the imported tools.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Sonavane: I want to ask one question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PROPERTIES PURCHASED FOR FOREIGN OFFICES

*1863. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of properties and their value purchased and owned by Government abroad for offices in foreign countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 1].

Shri Sidhva: May I know when this Building in Paris, in Avenue Charles for Rs. 11,86,000 was purchased? Was it a new purchase?

Dr. Keskar: My hon. friend is making a mistake. The new office building that has been purchased is worth about Rs. 7 lakhs. He is calculating the price of both the buildings together, the Embassy and office.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know exactly that point. The building in Avenue Charles Floquet is for Rs. 4,86,000 and the other Rs. 7 lakhs. Where is our office situated?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; it is going into details; the hon. Minister need not answer that question.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या कुछ ऐसे देश भी हैं कि जहां हमारे दूतावास हैं, और वहां पर अभी हमारी जायदादें नहीं हैं और क्या एसे देशों में भी जायदादें खरीदने की बात चीत चल रही हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Are there any such countries where we have our Embassies but do not yet possess properties and whether negotiations are afoot for purchasing properties in such countries?]

डा० केसकर : ऐसे बहुत से देश हैं जहां हमारे दूतावास हैं और हमारी जायदादें नहीं हैं और गवर्नमेंट की हमेशा से यह पालिसी रही है कि जहां तक हो सके , वहां तक अपनी जायदाद खरीदें , क्योंकि अपनी जायदाद होने में फायदा होता है और किराये का खर्चा बच जाता है ।

[**Dr. Keskar:** There are many such countries where we have our Embassies but do not possess any properties. It has always been the policy of the Government that as far as possible it should purchase properties for itself because it is advantageous to have them and also, there is saving of house rent.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : ऐसे कितने देश हैं, जहां पर .....

[**Seth Govind Das:** How many countries are there, where . . . .]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Mr. Sondhi.

Shri Sondhi: Is it a fact that the building which was primarily bought for the residence of our High Commissioner in England is lying vacant for the last 20 months without being used?

Dr. Keskar: The building at Kensington Garden, London, had been bought in July 1949 for the residence of the High Commissioner. Many controversies arose with regard to the furnishing of that building and until that is settled, the question of the High Commissioner living there does not arise.

Shri Sondhi: Is it a fact that though the furniture was being sanctioned, no assurance is forthcoming from the High Commissioner, that he will make use of it?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I answer that question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The question hardly arises of asking assurance from the High Commissioner as to whether he will make use of it or not. Buildings are not purchased or acquired for individuals, but for the nation, to be used by the respective officers. There is no doubt about that that this building that we have acquired in London has been a great bargain. It is situated in the best Embassy quarter in London and we are fortunate in having it. There has been delay in furnishing it. It is true, as the hon. Member referred to, that the High Commissioner is living in a room in the office. But, the point is that a building is not acquired merely for the use of the High Commissioner, but for all important functions, as well as occasionally for distinguished visitors from India to stay there, instead of in hotels and other places.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that when the proposition was before the Finance Committee it was mentioned in the memorandum that the building is being bought only for the residence of the High Commissioner?

Mr. Speaker: Only?

Shri Sondhi: Yes, Sir.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: An embassy is basically bought for the residence of the High Commissioner who is the official who discharges numerous functions apart from living in it.

Shri Sidhva: My hon. friend Mr. Sondhi stated that this building was not used at all. May I know whether it is absolutely not used? Personally, I have seen that building. It was used by officials and distinguished visitors. There is a club for the Defence Ministry. Is this a fact or not?

Mr. Speaker: That is hardly a question.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member has mixed it up with another building.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that some property was purchased in Washington some months ago, for the residence of our Ambassador there, but for the last few months it has been locked up and the Ambassador is living in a hotel out side?

Mr. Speaker: I think there is a separate question on that.

Shri Kamath: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I believe I have admitted that question.

Shri Kamath: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member sure?

Shri Kamath: I have got the papers, here, Sir.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To the second part of the hon. Member's question, the answer is yes. But the property was not purchased a few months ago, but long before the war, about ten or twelve years back. Sometimes the building at Washington has been used. But at the present time the embassy requires so much of repairs and some furnishing and partly also because it became so expensive to keep it up that a few months ago the Ambassadoress went to a hotel where she is living at her own cost.

TEA (PRODUCTION)

*1864. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the total production of tea in 1950 in India?

(b) Which country consumes the largest quantity of tea and which country imports from India the largest quantity?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The total production of tea in 1950 is estimated at 605 million lbs.

(b) The U.K. is the largest consumer of tea and imports the largest quantity of tea from India.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, whether the free market for the sale of this tea is likely to be closed on the first of next month, and if so, what will be the position for the sale of this tea?

Shri Mahtab: There is another question coming later, Sir, on the same point.

Shri Sidhva: That may be, but that question may not be reached.

Mr. Speaker: I think it better to take up both the questions together.

Shri R. Velayudhan: There is question No. 1876, Sir. That also may be taken along with this question.

Shri Sidhva: It is more appropriate to take up this question along with Mr. Barman's question No. 1871.

Shri Sondhi: All the three may be taken together.

Mr. Speaker: If that is the view of the House, I can ask the hon. Minister to take all the three questions together.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Sir, when questions connected with the same subject are tabled on the same day, the Minister himself used to say that he will answer all the questions together. That practice, I suggest, may be followed so that more supplementaries may be avoided.

Mr. Speaker: All right. We take up questions Nos. 1870, 1871 of Mr. Barman and also question No. 1876 all together, along with this. The hon. Minister may answer them also now, in that order—1870, 1871 and 1876.

TEA

*1870. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.K. will continue her 'bulk purchase' of tea in 1951;

(b) if not, whether tea produced in sterling concerns will be allowed to leave the Indian shore without undergoing sale transaction in India; and

(c) if so, whether the income of such concerns on such shipment of tea will be liable to income tax?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There will be no bulk purchase of 1951 tea by the U.K.

(b) Yes; some quantity of tea will be allowed to be consigned to the U.K. during 1951 without undergoing sale transactions in India.

(c) As a result of the change of place of sale, a part of the profits attributable to the sale operations outside India will not be chargeable to Indian income-tax as income accruing or arising in India. The profits attributable to the manufacturing operations will, however, be taxable.

DEVELOPMENT OF CALCUTTA AS WORLD TEA CENTRE

***1871. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps so far taken to develop Calcutta as world Tea Centre;

(b) whether the *ad hoc* Committee appointed for the purpose has submitted its final report; and

(c) if so, what are the salient points of the report?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) At the instance of Government, construction of additional warehousing accommodation has been undertaken by the Port Commissioners of Calcutta, with a view to increasing facilities of storage of additional quantity of tea that may be disposed of through the Calcutta Tea Auctions.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The salient points of the Report are as follows:

(i) assistance to tea industry in securing supplies of essential materials such as fertilisers and tea-chests should be given;

(ii) system of deferred payment of excise duty on tea should be introduced;

(iii) revision of the basis of levy of Income-Tax, Super-Tax, etc., on tea industry, so as to exempt from taxation the amount of profit utilised for benefit of labour should be undertaken;

(iv) additional warehousing accommodation at Calcutta to facilitate the routing through the Calcutta Tea Auctions of an additional quantity of tea, should be undertaken; and

(v) training of Indians in tea broking, should be undertaken.

TEA EXPANSION BOARD (EXPENDITURE)

***1876. Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred for the Tea Expansion Board in 1950?

(b) Is there any agency outside India for the expansion of tea run by the Government of India?

(c) What is the internal organisation for the expansion of tea in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The hon. Member presumably refers to the expenditure of the Central Tea Board, which incurred an expenditure of Rs. 81,62,360 during its year from the 1st October 1949 to 30th September 1950.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The Central Tea Board constituted under the Central Tea Board Act, 1949, is the organisation concerned with measures for the increased consumption of tea in India.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know which country in the world sells tea at the lowest price?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I cannot answer that question.

Shri Sidhva: Which country in the world produces the largest quantity of tea and how much is it?

Shri Mahtab: I have no such information about other countries; I have some information about our own country.

Shri Sidhva: What quantity of India tea is sold in foreign countries?

Shri Mahtab: I can give the figures of the export of tea from 1946 to 1950. They are as follows:

1946-1947—326·7 million pounds.

1947-1948—383·9 million pounds.

1948-1949—405·6 million pounds.

1949-1950—439·5 million pounds.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether India was invited to the World Tea Expansion Board functioning in New York?

Shri Mahtab: I know our Tea Board is connected with the International Tea Marketing Organisation and our Board makes its contribution to that Board for popularising tea all over the world.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether this International Tea Expansion Board did at any time suggest opposing the bulk purchase by Britain?

Shri Mahtab: That I do not know. But the bulk purchase system was existing till 1939. Just after the war it ceased to exist; but the United Kingdom has revived that system of bulk sale from the 1st of April, 1951.

Shri Barman: The hon. Minister said that some quantity of tea is going to be directly shipped to London without any formal sale transaction in India. That will entail some loss of Indian finance. Has the hon. Minister or the Government as a whole calculated the amount of this loss?

Shri Mahtab: The loss is about Rs. 20 lakhs.

Shri Barman: What is the capacity of the godown that will be built in order to help sale transactions in Calcutta as recommended by the *ad hoc* committee? This is in relation to question No. 1871, Sir.

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I cannot find that information just now.

Shri Barman: Sir, may I know if the Government or its agency the Central Tea Board have taken any steps towards training Indians in tea-testing, broking and also in the blending of tea?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, that has been undertaken.

Shri Barman: What are the actual recommendations and what actual steps have been taken? How many youths are going to be trained in tea-testing and broking?

Shri Mahtab: These steps are being taken by the Central Tea Board and they have provided money for the purpose. I cannot say what exact steps they have taken so far.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What was the income from tea cess levied in India in the year 1950 and what was the expenditure for tea expansion during the same period?

Shri Mahtab: I can give the hon. Member the figure for tea cess. Apart from the export duty we have a tea cess of Rs. 2 per 100 lbs. The contribution to the International Tea Expansion Board on behalf of the Central Board here is Rs. 52 lakhs and our Central Tea Board has spent 81 lakhs on expansion.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the prevailing price of tea for the bulk purchase system and the prevailing market price at Calcutta?

Shri Mahtab: As a matter of fact that is the only price. Tea used to be auctioned at Calcutta but now the auction will take place in U.K. That is the difference.

Shri Barman: I want to know at what price the bulk purchase was made and what was the prevailing market price at Calcutta.

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry these figures are not readily available.

Shri Poonacha: What is the overall demand and supply position so far as tea is concerned as compared with the demand and supply position when we entered into the International Tea Agreement? That agreement was entered into on the basis that the demand was not commensurate with the supply position and at that time it was felt that production was on the increase. Therefore we entered into the International Tea Agreement. I want to know whether the same position exists even today or whether the demand has not gone up and is intensely on the increase?

Shri Mahtab: From the figures I gave just now it will be seen that the demand is increasing as also the production. Therefore the same position exists.

Shri Poonacha: Can the Minister tell us whether it is being considered at Government level to end this International Tea Agreement and resort to free production of tea in India?

Shri Mahtab: That is not under consideration.

Shri Hussain Imam: What is the present demand for India tea? Is the supply from India according to whatever the demand is or is there restricted supply and quotas are being fixed for destinations?

Shri Mahtab: Quotas have been fixed according to our production here and we keep in view the local consumption also. Accordingly a liberal quota is fixed. The more the tea is exported the better it is for the country.

Shri Hussain Imam: I want to know whether there is a destinational quota or is it a general export quota?

Shri Mahtab: General export quota is fixed.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is Pakistan included in the quota or is it excluded?

Shri Mahtab: In view of the recent trade agreement the destinational quota to that extent will have to be fixed.

Shri Barman: Will the hon. Minister place on the Table of the House the *ad hoc* committee's report?

Shri Mahtab: I have no objection to do so.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether the expansion of tea consumption is commensurate with the expenditure on the Central Tea Board?

Shri Mahtab: It is for them to decide. It is a statutory body which consists of hard-headed businessmen. They know their business and it is for them to decide whether the actual result is commensurate with the money spent. They will not spend money for nothing. (*Interruption by Shri Sonavane.*)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, the hon. Member should not go on speaking like that. Shri Jhunjhunwala.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer to question 1870(b), namely that some quantity of tea is exported to the U.K. without undergoing sale transactions in India, may I know what is the quantity exported and on what basis the price was fixed in England?

Shri Mahtab: There has been practically no export. When the London Auction will take place the Central Tea Board have decided to send about 247 million lbs., that is in accordance with the recommendation of the *ad hoc* committee, till our arrangements are made here. According to the *ad hoc* committee it will not be wise to keep back tea from that auction, as it will lose the market. According to them the price will take its own course when the auction takes place.

Shri Kesava Rao: Is the Government aware that the price of India tea is lower than the price of Ceylon tea and Argentine tea? Do the Government propose to increase the export price of tea?

Shri Mahtab: There is no question of increasing the export price of tea. The price takes its own course at the time of the auction. Because perhaps the price of India tea is lower than the tea of other countries, it is more sold. It is a competitive price.

Shri Sidhva: In view of the low price of India tea as compared with other countries' tea, do Government intend to increase the export duty?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already said the price is not controlled. It cannot compete in the auction if it is controlled.

SALT

*1865. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Minister of Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the total quantity of salt imported into India in 1950?

(b) From which country or countries did India import salt?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) About 43 lakh maunds.

(b) From Aden, Egypt, Germany and West Pakistan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has there been any increased salt import in 1950 as compared to the import in 1949?

Shri Gadgil: In 1950, 43·1 lakh maunds of salt were imported as against 86 lakh maunds in 1949 and 120 lakh maunds each during 1947 and 1948.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether salt is still being imported from West Pakistan?

Shri Gadgil: Not now: but in 1950, as I said, out of the total quantity of 43·1 lakh maunds the quantity imported from Pakistan of rock salt was 1·3 lakh maunds.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is a fact that a quantity of salt was imported from West Pakistan surreptitiously by means of smuggling and this has been seized by Government? If so, have any steps been taken to distribute it?

Shri Gadgil: I do not know whether it was an attempt to smuggle. But permission was given by the Government to remove the wagons to any destination and rebook wherever the merchants wanted to do. Out of 150 wagons 139 were in the territory of PEPSU. They have all been attached.

Shri Jnani Ram: When is India expected to be self-supporting in salt?

Shri Gadgil: India is already self-supporting and the reasons why we were obliged to import 43 lakh maunds

of salt are that we had entered into a barter agreement, under which we had to give 5 lakh maunds to Japan and owing to the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of April 1949 we had to supply about 24 lakh maunds to East Pakistan. The result was that there was scarcity of salt in Calcutta and the salt in the country could not be immediately removed to Calcutta. Hence the necessity of importing salt from Aden.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Is there any control over the price and distribution of salt?

Shri Gadgil: Yes, in certain States there is control imposed by the State Government.

Shri Hussain Imam: I should like to know whether under the new pact any salt is to be sent to East Pakistan, and, if so, how do Government propose to meet this requirement?

Shri Gadgil: What is to be exported under the new pact is sufficiently well-known to the hon. Member.

Shri V. J. Gupta: Is it a fact that some of the existing salt factories in Madras State are not allowed to function unless they form into co-operative societies and, if so, what are the reasons for it?

Shri Gadgil: I will not be able to answer that question without notice, but I can assure the hon. Member that what we are insisting upon is entirely to the benefit of the factories.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Salt Advisory Committee recommended that no foreign salt should be imported as large quantities of salt already existed in the country? If so, why did Government import this 40 lakh tons from Pakistan?

Mr. Speaker: He has given the reasons.

Shri Sidhva: Despite this fact, which was known to the Salt Advisory Committee, that that was not a correct statement, why did they import when there was sufficient salt in the country?

Mr. Speaker: What was not a correct statement?

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that due to movement difficulty salt could not be sent to Calcutta and therefore it was necessary to import. My point was that this matter was discussed by the Salt Advisory Committee and despite the fact that the Committee resolved that salt could be moved very easily to Calcutta because there was sufficient stock in the South and in Saurashtra . . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister was referring to transport difficulties.

Shri Sidhva: The Salt Advisory Committee stated that it could be moved.

Shri Gadgil: The answer is obvious. The discussion was all right, but the experience was the other way about.

SCINDIA SHIP-BUILDING YARD

*1866. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of ships for whose construction Government propose to place orders with Scindia ship-building yard in the year 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Three, Sir.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of ships built so far in the Vizagapatam yard on Government account, and the loss incurred by the Government of India in keeping those yards going?

Mr. Speaker: I think that was answered more than once.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India are going to take over that yard?

Mr. Speaker: That also was answered a few days back.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want to know the number of ships that are built abroad for the requirements of Indian companies or the Indian Government, and whether those ships could have been manufactured at these Scindia yards.

Shri Mahtab: Obviously it was not possible to have them built here because the yard's capacity is limited.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know how many ships are being built in foreign countries?

Shri Mahtab: I have no idea.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Have the Government of India made any provision of Rs. 10 crores in the Colombo Plan for buying ships from abroad.....?

Shri Sondhi: Sir, on a point of clarification. On the previous question the

hon. Minister said that he does not know how many ships for Indian requirements are being built abroad. The question of allowing a ship to be built in a foreign yard goes through his department, therefore, how is it that he does not know it?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different matter. He may not have information on the various points which the hon. Member wants at the moment.

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member wants it, I will give him that information.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL (EXPENDITURE)

*1867. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total amount of money so far spent by the Government of India on the displaced persons from East Bengal?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Rs. 16 Crores (approximately) upto the end of 1950.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि यह जो रुपया खर्च किया गया है उस में से कितना रुपया ऐसा है जो कि शरणार्थियों को कर्ज के तौर पर नहीं बल्कि मकान बनाने या मामली काम करने के लिये मदद के तौर पर खर्च किया गया है और उसको वसूल नहीं करना है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the amount given to the displaced persons not as a loan but for the purpose of building houses or starting small business and which is not to be realised?]

श्री ऐ० पी० जैन : इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे पास सन् १९५०-५१ के आंकड़े हैं, पहले के नहीं।

सन् १९५०-५१ के आंकड़े इस प्रकार हैं।

७,६४,२७,००० रुपया बतौर ग्रांट के दिये गये हैं।

५,०७,५०,००० रुपया बतौर लोन के दिये गये हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** In this connection I have with me the figures for 1950-51 and not of earlier period.

The figures for 1950-51 are as follows:

Rs. 7,64,27,000, given as grant.

Rs. 5,07,50,000, given as loan.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the sum of money which is going to be given as housing and business loans to displaced persons from East Pakistan who are presently in Bihar?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got separate figures with me now.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how the total amount is distributed State-wise—West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Orissa, etc.?

Shri A. P. Jain: The State-wise distribution is as follows:

	Rs.
Grants	
West Bengal	4,82,00,000
Bihar	47,50,000
Orissa	38,04,000
Assam	19,00,000
Tripura	67,23,000
Manipur	20,000
Cachar	15,00,000
Ranaghat	63,00,000
Other States	32,30,000
Loans.	
West Bengal	4,00,00,000
Bihar	30,50,000
Orissa	22,00,000
Assam	45,00,000
Tripura	10,00,000
Manipur	3,00,000
Cachar	5,00,000

Shri S. C. Samanta: Does the amount of Rs. 16 crores include loans also?

Shri A. P. Jain: It includes both grants and loans.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी फरमायेंगे कि यह ग्रांट किस किस काम के लिये दी गई है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the purpose for which those grants have been given?]

श्री ऐ० पी० जैन : यह ग्रांट्स ज्यादातर जो लोग कैम्पों में रहते हैं उनको लोन्स देने में खर्च की गई हैं, कुछ शिक्षा के बारे में दी गई है, कुछ स्वास्थ्य के बारे में दी गई है, कुछ वाकेशनल और टेक्निकल ट्रेनिंग के बारे में और कुछ ट्रेनिंग सेन्टर्स के बारे में दी गई है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** These grants have mostly been spent in giving loans to those persons who are living in camps, some of them have been given for purposes of education, health, vocational and technical training and some have been given for training centres as well.]

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how much of this amount has been spent for relief and how much for rehabilitation work?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have read out the separate figures. Grants are relief and loans are rehabilitation, generally speaking.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total amount of money granted so far for constructing schools for children from East Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have given figures more than once in this House, but I do not recollect them accurately at the moment.

IMPORT OF AUTOMOBILES

*1868. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and value of cars, trucks, buses, lorries, chassis imported into India during the year 1950, separately the number imported from the U.K. and other sterling region and U.S.A. and other Dollar region;

(b) the number and value of vehicles of each type specified above, imported on Central and State Governments accounts; and

(c) the value of spare parts of cars, trucks, etc., imported into India during the said year, separately from Dollar and Sterling areas?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). A statement (attached) is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 2.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: With respect to part (b) of the question, I want to know the number and value of the buses, cars, etc., imported on Central Government's account, and the number and value of those imported on State Governments' account. That was my specific question. The statement does not contain that information.

Shri Mahtab: The statement contains that information.

Mr. Speaker: He says it does not.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: It does not contain the figures of the number and value of imports made on Central Government's and State Governments' accounts separately.

Shri Mahtab: In that case these figures will be laid on the Table later.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether it is a fact that imports on Government account from the dollar areas were over Rs. 2 crores while imports from the sterling areas were only to the extent of Rs. 20 lakhs?

Shri Mahtab: It may be so due to availability and various other considerations.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Out of the 104 cars imported from sterling areas and 60 cars from dollar areas, how many were on Central Government's account and how many on State Governments' account?

Shri Mahtab: I find that contrary to what my hon. friend said, the statement does contain the information he asked for. I shall read it for the benefit of the House.

Statement showing the number and value of vehicles purchased of each type separately from sterling and dollar areas during the year 1950 on Central and State Governments' account.

	Year—1950	
Country of origin	U. K.	
	Nos.	Value
Passenger cars	104	Rs. 9,33,389
Trucks	2	34,680
Buses	2	37,406
Lorries	..	..
Chassis	86	12,90,992

	Year—1950	
Country of origin	U. S. A.	
	Nos.	Value
Passenger cars	60	Rs. 6,31,518
Trucks	45	7,39,212
Buses	41	12,22,542
Lorries	..	..
Chassis	1,667	1,81,01,886

Mr. Speaker: But his question was how many of these were on Central Government account and how many on State Governments' account.

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry that information is not available with me.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Before orders are placed with the dollar areas, may I know whether any scrutiny is made as to whether those requirements can be imported from the sterling areas?

Shri Mahtab: Obviously. So far as the Central Government orders are concerned, they are placed according to certain rules which have been laid down. So far as State Governments are concerned, I do not think we can control their purchases.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही है कि एक खास कीमत से ऊपर की गाड़ियों का आयात डालर क्षेत्र से बन्द कर दिया गया है, और क्या इतने के बाद भी कुछ गाड़ियां डालर क्षेत्र से आ रही हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Whether it is a fact that the import of vehicles costing certain amount and above have been stopped from the dollar areas and whether, even after this some vehicles are being imported from the dollar areas?]

Shri Mahtab: The answer to the first part of the question is yes. About the second part, I am not aware.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were any motor bulbs allowed to be imported during this period from dollar areas?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I cannot say off hand.

Shri Bhagat: How did the import duties levied last year on motor spare parts affect their import particularly in respect of quantity and value?

Mr. Speaker: It is too wide a question.

TEXTILE MILLS IN RAJASTHAN AND AJMER

*1869. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mills and factories manufacturing cloth in Rajasthan and in the State of Ajmer separately;

(b) what is their total productive capacity and how many of them remained idle during the year 1950 either for want of cotton or due to strikes etc; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure continuity of production and obtain maximum production from these mills?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 4 mills and 5 powerloom factories in Rajasthan; 4 mills and 1 powerloom factory in Ajmer-Merwara.

(b) Total annual production capacity, on the basis of one shift per day, is 34,032,000 yards. 4 mills remained idle for different periods.

(c) All possible assistance is being extended to mills to ensure continuity of production by allocating sufficient quotas of Indian cotton consistent with the overall supply position in the country. Permission is being granted to the textile mills to employ more spindles on staple fibre to meet the cotton shortage.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the present position in regard to the supply of cotton to the mills in Ajmer?

Shri Mahtab: The position up till this morning as I ascertained from the Rajasthan Government on the telephone is this. No mill is closed now. The Rajasthan Newar Textile Mills Ltd. was closed down for shortage of cotton from 1st February, 1951, but it re-started from 19th February, 1951. The total Rajasthan consumption of cotton is 85,000 bales, out of which 48,000 bales have been allotted to Rajasthan itself. I could not ascertain the stock position of cotton with each mill, but I have ascertained that all the mills are now working.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: This is about Rajasthan. What about Ajmer?

Shri Mahtab: I could not ascertain the up to date position, but the Ajmer Mill is working. That is my information.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the zone from which these mills are supplied their cotton?

Shri Mahtab: For Rajasthan mills steps have been taken to have the supply from the local area, but *ad hoc* allotments have been made from Madhya Pradesh.

श्री एम० एल० वर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भीलवाड़ा मिल मालिक को राजस्थान गवर्नमेंट ने रुई बता दी थी फिर भी उसने नहीं खरीदी और दुराग्रह के कारण मिल

बन्द रखी। क्या उसके खिलाफ कोई सख्त कार्रवाई की गई है ?

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the owner of the Bhilvara Mill kept the mill closed, due to his insistance even after the Rajasthan Government had intimated to him the availability of cotton? Has any severe action been taken against him?]

Shri Mahtab: Rajasthan Government, I am told, are taking some action against this kind of conduct on the part of the mills.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: May I know what is the total number of days during which the mills in Rajasthan in the different areas remained closed on account of lock-out due to paucity of cotton?

Shri Mahtab: At least in one case, although the mill declared a lock-out on the ground of shortage of cotton, the fact was otherwise. The Maharaja Kishangarh Mills remained closed from 6th February 1950 to 16th February 1950. The Krishna Mills Ltd. remained closed from 10th May 1950 to 12th May 1950. The Vijay Cotton Mills, Ajmer, remained closed from 1st January 1950 to 10th January 1950. They gave different grounds. The Maharaja Kishangarh Mills gave the ground of cotton shortage. The other mills gave the reason of accumulation of stocks.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: Are Government aware that one additional and main cause of closure in regard to certain mills in Rajasthan including the mill at Bilwada was the policy of the management to effect retrenchment and also take recourse to victimisation?

Shri Mahtab: I do not know the detailed reasons, but our report is that some of the mills are closing down on account of mismanagement.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: What steps do Government propose to take against certain defaulters?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IN EAST AND WEST BENGAL

*1872. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terms of Indo-Pakistan Agreement for return of migrants to take possession of the immovable property in West and East Bengal have been extended upto the 31st March 1951; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The extension of the date became necessary on account of the delay in the promulgation of Ordinances by the Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and East Bengal, taking necessary powers for evicting unauthorised occupants of migrants' property and restoring vacant possession to the returning owners.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the number of migrants who have taken advantage of this extension up till January this year?

Dr. Keskar: I want notice.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if Government propose to make a further extension of this time?

Dr. Keskar: No. The extension up to 31st March is final but there is a proviso and both the Central Ministers have agreed that if a migrant owner returns after 31st March 1951 but before 31st December 1953 he may apply and claim restoration of the rights of management of his property. The Committee will examine his claim and if only it is satisfied, the property will be restored to him.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are Government satisfied that the same conditions prevail in West Bengal and East Bengal in regard to the returning migrants getting back their immovable property?

Dr. Keskar: I am not able to say offhand with regard to the conditions prevailing in both the Bengals.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government made any assessment of the immovable property left by the East Bengal refugees there?

Dr. Keskar: It is a very complicated and vast question to assess the property left, because people have been moving continuously every day and some people return daily. I do not think it is possible to assess until we get a final picture.

लाला अचिंतराम : क्या मंत्री जी कृपा कर के यह बतलायेंगे कि ऐसी जायदाद कितनी है जिसका कि कब्जा वापस जाने वालों को नहीं मिल सका है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how much property there is which the returning migrants have not been able to get back?]

Dr. Keskar: There have been a few cases, but it won't be possible to give the number.

Shri Hussain Imam: Will the Minister be pleased to say whether the extension of the time up to December 1953 only applies to East and West Bengal, or also to Bihar?

Dr. Keskar: It applies to all the States to which the original ordinance applied. I am not sure whether Bihar is in that.

TANNING MACHINES

*1873. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many tanning machines were imported into India in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) how many tanning machines were working in India before 1949-50; and

(c) whether the spare parts of the machinery can be manufactured in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Tanning machines valued at Rs. 4,51,873 and Rs. 2,54,457 were imported during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 (April to December 1950) respectively. Figures of imports by numbers are, however, not available.

(b) Information is not readily available.

(c) Yes Sir, some of them.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether there is any indigenous tanning machine manufacturing concern in India?

Shri Mahtab: There are two factories in Bengal—Messrs Bengal Machinery Corporation, Ltd., and the Shalimar Machinery Company are known to be producing some of the machines required.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Were these machines imported from the dollar area?

Shri Mahtab: I would like to have notice of that question.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any small-size machine for tanning has been invented in India which can be used for cottage industry and what help Government has given for that?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise from this question.

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1875. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total amount of loan so far sanctioned and the amount actually paid to displaced persons till the end of 1950?

(b) How much amount has been paid as loan for industries, business, agriculture and housing?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Loan sanctioned up to 31st December 1950 to displaced persons by State Governments and Rehabilitation Finance Administration amounted to Rs. 23·08 crores. The amount actually disbursed was Rs. 17·08 crores. (This does not include amounts sanctioned or paid by State Governments of Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal from whom information is being collected).

b) Loans for urban resettlement (including industry, business and housing).	.	Rs. 11·37 Crores.
Loans far rural resettlement.	.	Rs. 5·71 „
Total	.	Rs. 17·08 Crores

Shri Malaviya: May I know, Sir, the nature of industries for which these loans have been granted and the amount advanced industry-wise?

Shri A. P. Jain: The nature of the industries is very vast, but, generally speaking, they include only cottage industries. I am not in a position to give separate figures.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: By what dates are these loans to be repaid?

Shri A. P. Jain: The terms of repayment are different in different cases; in some cases it is six years, in some cases ten and in some others the period of repayment is longer.

Shri Malviya: Is there any amount paid as loan which is not recoverable and if so how much is that amount?

Shri A. P. Jain: A loan is always recoverable.

लाला अचित राम: क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि कुछ हालतों में जहां कर्जा मंजूर हो चुका है लेकिन जिनको कर्जा मंजर हुआ है उन्हों ने उससे फायदा

नहीं उठाया है। इसका एक कारण यह है कि जिन्हें कर्जा मंजूर हुआ है उनको फाईनैन्स मिनिस्ट्री और रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री के आपस में कोआडीनेशन के न होने से दुकानें नहीं मिल सकीं ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are aware of the fact that in some cases persons who have been granted loans have not been able to profit by them and one of the reasons being that those people who have been granted loans could not get shops due to the lack of co-ordination between the Finance and the Rehabilitation Ministries?]

Mr. Speaker: He has only expressed an opinion.

श्री एम० एल० वर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलायेंगे कि उदयपुर की प्रताप कालोनी के लिए स्टाफ पर तो लाखों रुपया खर्च हो रहा है मगर अभी तक मकान एक भी नहीं बन पाया है, इसका क्या कारण है ?

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the reason why no house has been built so far in the Pratap Colony, Udaipur while lakhs of rupees are being spent on the staff engaged for its construction?]

श्री ऐ० पी० जैन : प्रताप कालोनी का मामला काफी दिक्कत तलब है। उसमें काफी गड़बड़ी हो रही है। चुनांचे गवर्नमेंट आफ़ इंडिया के एक अफ़सर के ज़रिये हमने इन्क्वायरी करवाई है। उसकी रिपोर्ट हमारे पास आ गई है, लेकिन वह अभी मिनिस्ट्री में एग्जामिन हो रही है। मैं उसमें खूब छान बीन कर कर के काफी मुनासिब काररवाई करने वाला हूं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The case of Pratap Colony is a complicated one. There has been lot of mismanagement. The Government of India, had, therefore, sent one of its officers for conducting thorough enquiry into the case. We are in receipt of that report but at present it is being examined by the Ministry. After making complete investigations, I am going to take suitable action against the persons concerned.]

COLLIERY LABOUR

*1877. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my unstarred question No. 56 on the 14th August 1950, regarding bonus to colliery labour and state the percentage of labour which have received bonus, colliery-wise?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to see that every one of the colliery labourers received this bonus?

(c) How do Government propose to utilise the amount saved by colliery owners out of the bonus?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 3.]

Information as available is given in regard to Madhya Pradesh colliery-wise and for the rest according to regions.

(b) Government has been popularising the scheme amongst the employees through the Inspectors. If trade unions also take similar measures, even better results will be possible.

(c) No saving accrues to colliery owners out of the bonus except when the bonus is not disbursed. Unpaid bonus is treated as unpaid wages and does not, therefore, accrue to Government.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know the percentage of labour which has received bonus.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: If my hon. friend looks to the statement, he will find that the percentage varies from colliery to colliery. In Bengal it is 65 per cent.; in Orissa it is 65 per cent.; in Bihar the average is between 40 and 45 per cent; in C. P. in some collieries it is as much as cent. per cent., while in others it is 80 per cent., 50 per cent., 40 per cent., 38 per cent., 39 per cent., etc.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know if there are any collieries which have not paid the bonus to the colliery labour at all?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There may be a few. We have started prosecution against some of the collieries which have contravened the provisions of the Bonus and Provident Fund Act.

Shri A. C. Guha: Were there any cases in which the bonus money was withheld or forfeited from the labourers?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think so. The workers lose bonus for the quarter in which the attendance is not as prescribed under the Act or in which they take part in illegal strikes.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: I could not follow the answer to part (c) of the question.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: (c) No saving accrues to colliery owners out of the bonus except when the bonus is not disbursed. Unpaid bonus is treated as unpaid wages and does not, therefore, accrue to Government.

Shri R. L. Malviya: What do Government propose to do with regard to unpaid bonus?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Government propose to do nothing at present. It is for the trade union leaders, as for Government, to popularise the scheme and if cent. per cent. of the workers take advantage of the bonus, no unpaid bonus will accrue to the employers.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: Is there any proposal to divert the unclaimed bonus to labour welfare fund?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have said, unpaid bonus is treated as unpaid wages and accrues to the employers, at present.

Shri A. C. Guha: How is the unpaid bonus disposed of: does it accrue to the colliery-owners?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It accrues to the employers.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Is it not a fact that while giving these concessions to labour, Government allowed an increase of Rs. 3-8-0 per ton in the price of coal. When these concessions are not allowed, what steps do Government propose to either reduce the price of coal or utilise the amount otherwise?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The Conciliation Board's award not only covered bonus, but also took into consideration increase in wages, dearness allowance and other facilities and the price of coal was fixed taking into consideration all the items of increase in the cost of production. While calculating the increased cost of production on account of bonus a certain percentage of workers was taken into consideration. Even at that stage it was not presumed that cent. per cent. of the workers would qualify themselves for bonus and, therefore, if a certain percentage of workers do not receive bonus, it will accrue to the employers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export Promotion Committee

***1874. Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many of the recommendations made by the Export Promotion Committee have been implemented by Government?

(b) What was the recommendation of the Committee regarding oil seeds?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the recommendations made by the Export Promotion Committee including those regarding oil seeds and implementation thereof by Government. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 4].

Disparity in Price of Yarn

***1878. Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is a great disparity in price between yarn of count 20 and 26 even though their manufacturing cost is not very much different;

(b) Whether there is any obligation on the part of the mill-owners to manufacture a fixed quota of count 20; and

(c) What steps are taken by Government to ensure an adequate supply of yarn to handloom weavers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No, Sir. The prices of yarn vary from counts to counts and are fixed on the basis of the formulae suggested by the Tariff Board which takes into account the cost of raw material and manufacturing charges.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The following steps have been taken by Government to supply adequate quantity of yarn to the handloom weavers:

(i) Issue of further licences for export of yarn of all counts have been banned from 4th January, 1951.

(ii) Free sale concession given to the mills previously has been withdrawn.

(iii) 66,000 bales of American cotton have been distributed to various spinning mills at subsidised rates for production of yarn to be made available to the handloom weavers.

(iv) Yarn of counts 80s and above of the value of Rs. 65 lakhs is being imported during the 1st half of 1951 for supply to the Handloom Industry.

(v) The new mills sanctioned under the Cotton Textile Expansion Plan have been asked to keep at least 25 per cent. of their production reserved for the Handloom Industry. Higher percentages are, however, reserved in the case of new mills in Madras and Orissa at the instance of the respective State Government.

Trade Unions (Membership)

***1879. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what is the membership of the Trade Union Congress and I.N.T.U.C. in the States of Bombay, Bengal, U.P., Bihar, C. P. and Punjab?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): By Trade Union Congress, the hon. Member is presumably referring to the All India Trade Union Congress. I lay on the Table a statement showing the membership in October 1950, as claimed by the All India Trade Union Congress and the Indian National Trade Union Congress in the States of Bombay, Bengal, the Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and the Punjab.

STATEMENT

Name of the Workers' Organisation	Bombay	Bengal	Uttar Pradesh
I. N. T. U. C. (Indian National Trade Union Congress)	1,21,370	4,57,075	1,55,828
A. I. T. U. C. (All India Trade Union Congress)	1,14,202	2,33,846	40,126

Name of the Workers' Organisation	Bihar	Madhya Pradesh	Punjab
I. N. T. U. C. (Indian National Trade Union Congress)	1,70,127	40,595	9,696
A. I. T. U. C. (All India Trade Union Congress)	53,546	18,079	6,485

These figures have not been verified by the Government of India.

Re-organisation of Government Printing Presses

***1880. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of India are contemplating reorganisation of Government Printing Presses;

(b) if so, to what purpose and on what lines;

(c) the number of Government Printing Presses existing at present;

(d) the places where they are installed;

(e) whether any new Press is likely to be installed; and

(f) if so, at what place and at what cost?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes.

(b) It is proposed to reorganise and expand the presses with a view to increase their efficiency and rate of production. The lines on which the presses should be reorganised have been examined by an Expert Committee set up for the purpose and their formal recommendations are awaited.

(c) Five.

(d) Two in Calcutta and one each in New Delhi, Simla and Aligarh.

(e) Yes.

(f) Nasik. The cost is (i) Recurring Rs. 20,00,000 (for staff, contingencies and stores);

(ii) Non-recurring—Rs. 1,61,50,000 (approx.) (for building, including land, water, electricity and residential accommodation); and Rs. 20,00,000 (approx.), (for machinery).

Proposal for a separate Cypher Press under the control of the Ministry of Defence is also under consideration.

कुटीर उद्योग योजना

*१८८१. **श्री जांगडे :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री उन उद्योग धंधों का नाम बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे जिन का प्रशिक्षण कुटीर उद्योग योजना के अन्तर्गत दिया जायेगा ?

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES SCHEME

[*1881. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the names of occupations for which training will be given under the Cottage Industries Scheme?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The matter is being examined by a Sub-committee of the Cottage Industries Board.

STEEL

*1882. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total quantity of steel proposed to be imported for Government purposes during 1951?

(b) Which are the countries whence the supply is expected to come?

(c) How do the rates compare with those of Indian products?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) As imported steel is pooled with indigenous steel and allotted to various classes of consumers including Government Departments against demands received from them, it is not possible to indicate separately the quantity of steel that will be imported for Government purposes only. Subject to availability of steel at reasonable prices, we would like to import anything up to 500,000 tons.

(b) U. K., France, Belgium, Germany, U.S.A., and Japan.

(c) The landed prices of imported steel are about 60 to 100 per cent. more than the Indian prices depending on the type of steel.

STORES FOR GOVERNMENT PURPOSES

*1883. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the total value of stores purchased for Governmental purposes during the year 1950?

(b) What was the value of surplus stores which were disposed off?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Records of purchases are maintained according to financial years and not calendar years. The total value of stores purchased by the purchasing organisations of the Ministry of Works, Production and Supply on behalf of departments of the Government of India, State Governments, foreign governments, quasi-public bodies, etc., was Rs. 1,28,73 lakhs during 1949-50 and Rs. 1,11,76 lakhs during the period April to December 1950. Separate figures of the value of stores purchased for only Governmental purposes are not available.

(b) The book value of surplus stores disposed of during 1949-50 was Rs. 57,87 lakhs, and during the period April to December 1950, Rs. 54.59 lakhs.

RADIO SETS

*1884. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of wireless receiving sets imported into India from different countries during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the aggregate value of the imported sets in each of these years;

(c) the rate of import duty levied on wireless receiving sets;

(d) the income during each of the said three years derived from import duties;

(e) the total number of wireless receiving sets manufactured in India during each of the said three years; and

(f) the aggregate value thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). A statement showing the total number of wireless receiving sets imported into India from different countries during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and the nine months of 1950 and their aggregated value is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 5.]

(c) The rate of import duty levied on wireless receiving sets is 50 per cent. *ad valorem* (Standard rate) and 44 per cent. *ad valorem* (Preferential rate).

(d) Import duty derived from wireless receiving sets in 1948-49, 1949-50 and the eight months April to November 1950 was Rs. 52,10,713; Rs. 38,95,315 and Rs. 9,56,846 respectively.

(e) The total number of wireless receiving sets manufactured in India during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 were 3,880; 16,838 and 43,514 respectively.

(f) Their aggregate values are estimated at Rs. 7,76,000; Rs. 33,68,000 and Rs. 87,00,000 respectively.

INDO-CANADIAN IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT

*1885. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indo-Canadian Immigration Agreement has been concluded; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of this agreement and what is the period of years for which the agreement stands?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, an Agreement was signed on the 25th January, 1951, in Ottawa between India and Canada providing for the immigration of Indians into Canada with effect from the year 1951

(b) A copy of the terms of the Agreement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 6.]

SURPLUS STORES

*1886. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the book values of surplus stores (i) Indian, (ii) U.K.'s and (iii) U.S.A.'s in the custody of the Disposals Department of Government on 1st January 1951;

(b) the approximate period during which these surplus stores are likely to be fully liquidated; and

(c) what steps, if any, are being taken to ensure the early liquidation of all stores which are surplus to Governmental requirements?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Book values of surplus stores awaiting disposal on 1st January 1951 were:

American surpluses	Rs. 29 crores.
Indian and U. K. surpluses	Rs. 14·5 crores. Separate figures are not maintained in respect of the lattter

(b) It is expected that the bulk of the stores will be disposed of by the end of June 1951.

(c) I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the reply given by the hon. Shri Harekrushna Mehtab to part (a) of Question No. 25 asked by Shri Sidhva on the 15th November 1950.

DISPOSALS BOARD

*1887. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the date of creation of the Disposals Board;

(b) its present personnel;

(c) the book values of surplus stores of all kinds disposed off or otherwise dealt with by this body since its creation; and

(d) the amounts realised from the sale of surplus stores referred to in part (c) above since 15th August 1947?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). The disposals Board was constituted on the 13th September, 1944. Its present personnel is as under:

Chairman.

(1) Secretary, Ministry of Works, Production and Supply

Members.

(2) Secretary, Ministry of Defence.

(3) Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

(4) Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (as required).

(5) Financial Adviser, Ministry of Finance (Defence).

(6) Director General of Disposals.

A Joint Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Works, Production and Supply, incharge of Disposals is *ex-Officio* Secretary to the Board.

(c) and (d). Book value of all surplus stores disposed of up to 31st December 1950, was Rs. 437·64 crores, and realisation from 1st September 1947 to 31st December 1950 was Rs. 54·18 crores. No figures are available separately for the period 15th to 31st August, 1947.

SITE FOR RESERVE BANK OF INDIA, NEW DELHI

*1889. **Shri Hussain Imam:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which House No Parliament Street, New Delhi was

vacated, dismantling started, and dismantling completed;

(b) the original cost of the building, the cost of dismantling, the estimated cost of re-building a house of the same type and dimensions;

(c) the area of the ground of this house and the area of land lying to the north across the road and to the east adjacent to the grounds of this house; and

(d) the reasons for this dismantling and the cause of delay in building up the Reserve Bank offices on this site?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 7.]

(d) In implementation of the Government's decision to urbanise the Parliament Street, the plot of land on which the house in question stood, has been leased out to the Reserve Bank of India for constructing their multi-storeyed building. As regards the delay in building up the Reserve Bank offices on this site, this is mainly due to the time required in preparing the designs, the drawings and the estimates for the buildings and in collecting the building materials.

SPORTS GOODS

*1890. **Shri S. V. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many units are working in India for producing sports goods and what is their outturn?

(b) What are the approximate needs of the country in respect of sports goods?

(c) What are the export and import figures for the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

NEWSPRINT

*1891. **Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission recently examined the utility of the Nepa and Ballarpur Mills in Madhya Pradesh for the manufacture of newsprint and paper; and

(b) whether the Commission has recommended that this project in Madhya Pradesh be accorded high priority in the overall national plan?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The projects are still under consideration.

STEEL PLANT IN MADHYA PRADESH

*1892. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has selected Bhilai, near Raipur, in Madhya Pradesh, as the site for the location of the new steel plant to be set up in India;

(b) if not, which is the site that has been chosen;

(c) whether the original proposal to erect a 5,00,000 ton plant in Madhya Pradesh has been modified, if so, to what extent;

(d) whether there has been any revised estimate recently; and

(e) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been informed of the modification, if any, in the original proposal?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir, for one of the plants.

(b) The site for another plant has been fixed in Orissa.

(c) and (d). Two revised proposals have been received by Government and they are:

(i) the erection of a plant with a capacity of 600,000 tons of finished steel and 93,000 tons of pig iron for sale, at an estimated cost of Rs. 80 crores including working capital and township.

(ii) the erection of a plant with a capacity of 400,000 tons of finished steel at an estimated cost of Rs. 51 crores excluding working capital and township.

But Messrs. Koppers Co. while submitting the above modified proposal have suggested that the location of the plant as proposed in the modified form should be in the vicinity of Hirakud.

(e) No, Sir. The revised proposals are still under consideration.

PAPER

*1893. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for paper production in India; and

(b) whether facilities are provided to the paper industry for the easy availability of its raw materials?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The target fixed for 1950 was 1,10,000 tons. No target has yet been fixed for the year 1951.

(b) Yes, Sir.

MINIMUM WAGES

*1894. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state which of the States have fixed minimum wage in different industries according to Minimum Wages Act?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): A statement showing the information available is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 8.]

COTTAGE AND SMALL SCALES INDUSTRIES

*1895. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where State initiative has been taken and assistance given to promote cottage and small scale industries; and

(b) which of the states have set up statutory corporations to give financial aid to the cottage and small scale industries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

PRESS ATTACHED TO COMMERCE MINISTRY

*1896. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the income and expenditure during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 on account of the Press attached to the Commerce Ministry; and

(b) the number of publications issued by the Press during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 9.]

TRADE AGREEMENTS

*1897. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trade agreements made with foreign countries during the last twelve months ending January 1951; and

(b) the names of those countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Thirteen including two with Sweden.

(b) Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Western Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Poland Sweden, and Switzerland.

EMPLOYMENT NEWS

*1898. **Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the cost incurred during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 on account of the magazine "Employment News" published by the Ministry;

(b) the number of copies printed on an average per month;

(c) the nature and scope of its circulation; and

(d) who is editing the magazine?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The cost of printing the 'Employment News' was as follows:

Year	Cost
	Rs.
1948	30,800
1949	19,680
1950	16,600

(b) 12,640.

(c) The bulletin is issued to important employers, businessmen, educational institutions, Members of Parliament, State Legislatures, Editors of newspapers, etc., all over India.

(d) The "Employment News" is edited by the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment.

PETROLEUM

*1899. **Shri K. Vaidya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the total quantity of petroleum consumed in India during the last two years?

(b) What is the total quantity of power alcohol required for the purpose of mixing it with petroleum?

(c) Is the required quantity of power alcohol produced in the country to meet the above requirement?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The total quantity of motor spirit, which the hon. Member evidently has in mind consumed in India during 1949 and 1950 was 168,121,000 gallons and 185,631,857 gallons respectively.

(b) One-fifth our total requirements of petrol, taking an admixture of 20 per cent.

(c) No.

RETURN OF MUSLIM MIGRANTS

119. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of Muslims who migrated from U.P. to West Pakistan between the 1st February, 1950 and 31st May, 1950, who have returned to India under the special arrangements made for them?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): About 19,500 such migrants have returned to the Uttar Pradesh so far.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 5th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SMUGGLING OF DIAMONDS

***1902. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a packet of Christmas cards received at Bombay Foreign Post Office contained diamonds worth Rs. 150,000?

(b) If so, what was the name and address of the sender, and to whom was that packet addressed?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The question concerns the Ministry of Finance to whom it has been transferred for answer by the hon. Minister for Finance on a subsequent date allotted to that Ministry.

Paniwala MAHARAJ

***1903. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the terms of the employment of '*Paniwala* Maharaj', the water diviner of Rajasthan;

(b) for what period he has been engaged; and

(c) on what basis his visits to the various areas are fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) An honorarium of Rs. 1,800/- p.m. plus an allowance of Rs. 500/- p.m. is paid to him.

(b) The appointment has not been made for any specified period.

(c) The Rajasthan Underground Water Board settles his programme and charges a fee of Rs. 150/- per day plus travelling expenses to the party requesting *Paniwala* Maharaj's services outside Rajasthan.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What parts of the country have been benefited by his divine powers so far?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Rajasthan, Faridabad, Rajpura and parts of Saurashtra.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What percentage of his predictions have come out true?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not calculated the actual percentage. Almost all the places where he had divined water have been found to be correct.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether any expenditure on behalf of this *Paniwala* Maharaj is met by the State Governments?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. Whenever any State wants him they have to pay at the rate of Rs. 150 per day plus first class travelling allowance.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the number of days he was on tour in 1950?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has he been able to divine any place containing petrol or other mineral oils?

Shri Thirumala Rao: He is called *Paniwala* Maharaj.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if any officer of the Agricultural Department either of the Central or State Government has been associated with this work?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. I am not aware of any.

Shri S. N. Das: Is there any proposal on the part of Government to start any

centre for training to be conducted by *Paniwala* Maharaj, so that India will be able to get a sufficient number of water-diviners?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Seth Govind Das: Has this *Paniwala* Maharaj visited all the provinces and, if not, is he going to be sent to those provinces which he has not so far visited?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): He is not a touring *Paniwala* Maharaj. He has to be on the spot for days before he divines water and a well is started.

Seth Govind Das *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANK FACILITIES

*1904. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of Post Offices in which Savings Bank facilities exist in Part A, B and C States and how many of them are situated in the Urban and rural areas separately;

(b) the amount deposited at these Saving Banks during the year 1950, and how this figure compares with the deposits made at these Post Offices during the years 1948 and 1949; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend the Savings Bank facilities in all its Post Offices situated in the rural area, if so by which date, and if not why not?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The information is being collected, and will be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) The question of extending S.B. business in rural areas has been examined by the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee as well as by the Post office Savings Bank Enquiry Committee and their recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it not known to the Government as to what is the amount deposited in these savings banks?

Shri Kidwai: The information has to be collected from a large number of offices, especially in C class and B class States. Therefore the information is not readily available.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What percentage of the total post offices are discharging this function of savings bank business?

Shri Kidwai: There is no fixed percentage. All the departmental offices transact this business. Some extra-departmental sub-offices also transact this business. Some branch offices have also got to do this business. Extra-departmental offices in special circumstances are permitted to do this savings bank business.

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन देहातों में दो हजार की आबादी पर नये डाकखाने खोले गये हैं वहां पर क्या यह सेविंग बैंक की सुविधा खोली गई है या नहीं, और अगर नहीं खोली गई तो क्या जल्दी यह खोली जायगी ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** I want to know whether the facility of Savings Bank has been provided in those post offices which have been opened in the villages having a population of two thousand and if not, whether this facility is going to be provided soon?]

श्री किदवाई : यह तो हर मुकाम के हालात पर मुनहसिर है ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** It all depends on the local conditions.]

CATTLE DISEASES

*1905. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to fight the foot and mouth disease affecting cattle in India;

(b) whether this disease prevalent in India differs from that prevalent in other countries of the world; and

(c) which system of medicine is administered in India for its cure?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The following measures are usually taken to fight an outbreak of foot and mouth disease among cattle.

(1) Foot baths in an antiseptic lotion are provided.

(2) Infected animals are segregated.

(3) Ulcers in the mouth and foot are treated. Saliva from the affected animals is rubbed on the tongues of susceptible animals to cut short the duration of the outbreak.

The above measures as also propaganda among the cattle-owners are carried out by the State Governments through the agency of their Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Departments.

(b) No.

(c) The Government Departments use the allopathic system for preventive measures.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the disease is contagious?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think it is.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the number of cattle that die every year out of this disease?

Shri K. M. Munshi: About 4,000.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the loss due to mortality, reduction in working capacity and reduction in milk yield and reduction in breeding capacity?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got the figures here. If the hon. Member will give notice I will have them worked out.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any research has been carried out by Government to find a proper medicine for this disease? If so, what are the results and what are the centres where this work is being done?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Indian Agricultural Research Council has a scheme working at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute. They have for the moment evolved a vaccine but its cost is very high, Rs. 5 per dose. They are now trying to reduce the cost.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the period of immunity given by this vaccine?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : माननीय मंत्री जी ने शायद अभी यह कहा कि इसका इलाज ऐलोपैथिक पद्धति से किया जाता है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में हमारे यहां पुरानी पद्धतियां क्या थीं उनके सम्बन्ध में भी क्या कोई अनुसन्धान हो रहा है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Perhaps, the hon. Minister has just told that it is treated according to allopathic system. I want to know what were our old systems for its treatment and whether any research work is being carried with regard to them?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no research work carried on but it has been found that Ayurvedic and Unani systems are not effective.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या ऐसा तरीका भी ईजाद किया जा रहा है कि किसान सहज में उसका प्रयोग कर सकें ?

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** I want to ask the hon. Minister whether any research work is being carried on regarding such a system which could be easily made use of by the farmers?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: We have not been able to find any so far.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that the number of deaths and also disablement of cattle as a result of this disease for a long period is stated to be very high and may I know whether the figure of 4,000 mentioned relates to a particular area or for the whole of India?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the mortality figure of 4,000 is concerned it relates to the whole of India. I agree that a very much larger number suffers from either reduced working capacity, reduced milk-yielding capacity or general debility.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Have any preventive medicines been discovered for the purpose and are they being distributed freely?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact it has not been possible to find anything completely suitable. But as I mentioned we have evolved a vaccine which costs about Rs. 5 a dose. What is imported from foreign countries costs even much higher and some of them are not effective on Indian cattle.

NORTH ANDAMANS FORESTS

*1906. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for exploiting the North Andamans forests by private enterprise has been put into operation; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Not yet.

(b) The agreement with the party whose tender has been accepted has not yet been signed as all the documents required by Government for certain verifications have yet to be

produced by the Company and examined by Government.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What is the area of the forest that is sought to be exploited?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The area is about 600 sq. miles.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the name of the Company?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The highest tenderer with whom negotiations are now going on is Messrs. P. C. Ray & Co. (India) Ltd., Calcutta.

Shri Kamath: Which other firms, Sir, tendered for this concession?

Shri K. M. Munshi: About six or eight firms tendered. I cannot reproduce the names of all—I remember a few but don't remember all.

Shri Kamath: Has Government called for the capital structure, the assets and the balance sheets for the last three years of this firm with whom negotiations are going on?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is what I mentioned in my reply, that verification is going on with a view to find out the financial position of the Company and whether it has got sufficient capacity for carrying out this work.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In having these forests exploited is it the intention of the Government to put the land to agricultural production?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No. As a matter of fact these are forest lands and new trees will be planted. It is our biggest forest and will in course of time supply the timber necessary for this country.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Has any match-manufacturing company been given a concession in this forest?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what kind of timber is available there, and whether any new kind of timber is experimented to be grown there?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far this North Andaman forest has not been exploited. It has got varieties of timber of exceptional character and sometimes of great beauty,—varieties not found in any other part of the world, I understand. Of course, no new experiments are being made there.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Will the benefits derived from this scheme of exploitation go to the refugees there or to the indigenous population?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the North Andamans are concerned, there is very little population there.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What is the period of the contract?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am speaking from memory—it is something like 20 or 25 years.

Mobile Observatories

*1907. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Meteorological Department has arranged that ships of Indian registration or normally plying in Indian waters, should serve as 'mobile observatories' so far as weather and other conditions along the routes are concerned; and

(b) how many stations there are for receiving weather reports?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Within India...8
Outside India...4.

प्रो० ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि इस योजना म कितना पैसा खर्च किया जाता है ?

[**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** May I know the amount of money that is being spent on this scheme?]

श्री किदवाई : इसका जवाब तो मैं इस वक्त नहीं दे सकता ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** At present, I am unable to give a reply to it.]

प्रो० ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र: क्या और दूसरे मुल्क भी इसमें हिस्सा बंटाते हैं ?

[**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Whether other countries also contribute towards it?]

श्री किदवाई : किस चीज में हिस्सा बंटाते हैं ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** They contribute towards what?]

प्रो० ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र : यह जो आब्जरवेशन का काम होता है उस में क्या दूसरे मुल्क भी हिस्सा बंटाते हैं ?

[**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Whether other countries also co-operate in this observation work?]

श्री किदवाई : हमारे एरिया म जिन जिन मुल्कों के जहाज आते हैं उन को वह इत्तला दी जाती है और इसी तरह हमारे जहाज जो दूसरे मुल्कों की हद म जाते हैं वहां के डिपार्टमेंट हमारे जहाजों को इत्तला देते हैं ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** We give information to the ships of various countries which sail within our area and similarly when our ships sail to other countries their departments give our ships this information.]

Advisory Board of Indian Council of Agricultural Research

*1908. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advisory Board of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recommended a number of schemes for agricultural and animal husbandry research;

(b) if so, the number and names of these research schemes; and

(c) how many of these recommendations will be implemented and in what time?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) The number of schemes so recommended at the meeting of the Board held in January, 1951 is 83, out of which 46 are new and 37 are extension schemes. Two lists showing the names of these schemes are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 10.]

(c) The Governing Body at its meeting held on the 5th February, 1951 sanctioned 77 out of the 83 schemes recommended by the Advisory Board. The schemes not approved by the Governing Body are items (2), (8), (12), (19), (20) and (31) of list I placed on the Table of the House in reply to part (b) Extension schemes are sanctioned from the date of expiry of their existing term whereas sanction for new schemes will take effect from 1st April, 1951. The period for which each scheme has been sanctioned is shown in the two lists.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know on what basis priority in the scheme is determined?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as extension schemes are concerned the results achieved and the progress made are taken into consideration. As regards the new schemes, they are first of all received from the States or from the institutions in which the schemes are to be carried out, then they go to the appropriate Scientific Board, then studied and submitted to the Advisory Council when the Advisory Council studies them and selects those which are suitable. After that they come to the Council and the Council examines them.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether any scheme for the starting of a cattle farm in the Travancore-Cochin State is contemplated under any of these 83 schemes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: May I refer the hon. Member to the statement which I have placed before the House?

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether in all these research schemes including those which are to be given effect to, any direction is given by the Government to this research authority to see that only those researches are carried out as will result in immediate increase in yield from crops?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, most of the researches are of practical application which might lead to immediate results, and recently they have been trying to carry out those researches which are of immediate importance.

Shrimati Durgabai: What is the total estimated expenditure in the implementation of such schemes as are recommended?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The total expenditure is Rs. 43,51,560 out of which Rs. 26,40,970 are for new schemes and Rs. 17,10,590 for extension schemes.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether any of the schemes have been rejected or deferred for want of funds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I don't think that any of the schemes which have been rejected were rejected on account of lack of funds. They have been rejected partly because the States were not prepared to bear their share of expenditure. Others have been rejected because they were not of practical importance or because the parties who applied for aid were not found competent to carry them out.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask what practical efforts are made by the I.C.A.R. to bring the results of agricultural research to the notice of cultivators?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact the results are spread over the whole country through the Agriculture Departments of the States. Recently it has been decided by the Research

Board that such of the old research papers as are of immediate importance should be collated, brought uptodate and published.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: May I know whether the 'key village scheme' of animal husbandry submitted by Sardar Datar Singh is one of the approved schemes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The 'key village scheme' which has been prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture has been sanctioned for certain pilot schemes.

SEISMOGRAPH

*1909. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an earthquake lasting for about two minutes according to Press reports was felt in the Kashmir Valley on the early morning of 6th January, 1951, but as the local Seismograph was not in working condition its tremors could not be recorded;

(b) the names of the various places in India where seismographs are installed with the dates of their installation and the present condition of each seismograph; and

(c) what steps are being taken to set right the defects in the seismograph referred to in part (a) above?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (c). An earthquake of moderate intensity and having its epicentre in the Hindu Kush mountains was recorded at about 10.50 a.m. on the 6th January, 1951 by the seismographs maintained by the India Meteorological Department. I am not aware whether the earthquake was also recorded by the seismograph of the Srinagar Observatory which is under the control of the State Government. I may add, Sir that I have just now received information that the Kashmir Government seismograph has not yet been installed and therefore it was not possible to record the earthquake.

(b) I lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the required information. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 11.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: As the mechanism of seismograph requires specialised training to handle and understand it, what arrangements have Government made to impart this specialised training to suitable candidates?

Shri Kidwai: Training is given in our Workshop at Poona.

Dr. Deshmukh: How long after an earthquake takes place does the seismograph record it?

Shri Kidwai: The recording is simultaneous.

POLITICAL PENSIONERS

*1910. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of political pensioners in India; and

(b) the different categories under which these pensioners may be classified?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). The information is not readily available and I am afraid, the collection of the information asked for would involve time and labour hardly commensurate with its value.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Rulers of the Native States and the last Governor-General of India are entitled to be enlisted in the category of political pensioners?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not think that they would be regarded as political pensioners. Rulers get certain privy purses. The ex-Governor-General will in future get a pension from us.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the annual expenditure on political pensions?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid I am unable to give that information.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the terms "Amanat", "Zamanat" and "Saliana" are used in regard to political pensioners and if so, what do they convey?

Shri Gopalaswami: I should like to have notice of this question.

Shri Kamath: Are Government continuing the pension granted by the British Government to those or to the descendants of those who helped them in our first war of independence of 1857?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am not in a position to say whether all of them have been terminated. It may be that some of them are being continued.

NAVIGATION IN HOOGLY AND GANGA RIVERS

*1911. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether any scheme has been considered to make the rivers Hoogly and Ganga more navigable so that steamers from Calcutta may come up to Buxar and upwards?

(b) Is it a fact that a proposal for deepening the bed of the Ganga by six feet between Buxar and Allahabad is under active consideration of Government?

(c) How far is it possible at present during winters for steamers to come from Calcutta along the Hoogly and the Ganga?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. The Ganga Barrage Scheme which is under investigation aims, among other things, at the improvement of navigation in the Ganga and the Hoogly.

(b) Surveys have established the possibility of maintaining a navigable channel 6 feet deep between Buxar and Allahabad by improving the depths in about 18 shoals. The question of making this stretch of the river navigable is under consideration in consultation with Uttar Pradesh Government.

(c) During winter only light draft steamer (Draft 4'-0") can go from Calcutta up to Kalna on the Hooghly about 50 miles from Calcutta.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any survey has been done on the upper reaches of the river Hoogly to examine the possibility of extending its navigability?

Shri Santhanam: Investigations of the Ganga Barrage project were started early in 1948 by the West Bengal Government and are still being conducted.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any scheme has been approved by Government for improving the navigability of any river in the country, so that steps may be taken soon?

Shri Santhanam: At present, the entire responsibility rests with the State Governments, but under the new Constitution it is a concurrent subject. The Central Board of Transport convened a Conference last year to consider the matter. As a result of that Conference, a sub-committee was set up and surveys were made about the navigability of the stretch between Allahabad and Buxar.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government any scheme for connecting the Hoogly from Calcutta to the sea *via* Diamond Harbour by digging a canal?

Shri Santhanam: That scheme was considered some time ago. I think there is a lull in the consideration of that scheme.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are Government ready to take up the proposal?

Shri Santhanam: Not yet, Sir.

AIR LICENCES

*1912. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new licences so far issued by the Air Transport Licensing Board during the year 1950-51; and

(b) the expenditure incurred by Government for facilitating the smooth flying of planes along the routes along which new licences have been issued, *e.g.* equipment of aerodromes necessary for the new air services?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 13 licences have so far been issued by the Air Transport Licensing Board during 1950-51.

(b) No extra expenditure has so far been incurred as the facilities required for the operation of these services had been provided at the aerodromes concerned in connection with the operation of other services established earlier. But there are proposals to incur expenditure as follows:

(i) For an Aeronautical Communication Station at Imphal:

Capital Expenditure—Rs. 13,100.

Recurring (Annual) Expenditure—Rs. 11,200.

(ii) For a radio telephone channel at Ranchi:

Capital Expenditure—Nil.

Recurring (Annual) Expenditure—Rs. 5,000.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government have given any assurance to these new licensees to the effect that if any loss is incurred then Government will give a subsidy to cover that loss?

Shri Kidwai: No such assurance has been given nor was it asked for.

GROUNDNUT KERNELS AND GROUNDNUT OIL

*1913. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that groundnut kernels and groundnut oil had a steady increased demand and sudden rise of price unheard of in the history of the Industry before?

(b) If so, what are the reasons?

(c) What steps have Government taken to stem the price for consumers in the country?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) The rise in prices is attributable to such causes as the uneasy international situation which has increased the demand for exports, rise in internal demand, speculative activity and to a short crop of groundnut in 1950-51 due to failure of late rains.

(c) Government have suspended the registration of overseas sales of groundnut oil and hand-picked selected groundnut. The control over the prices of Vanaspati also operates as some indirect check over groundnut and groundnut oil prices. As the House is aware, there is also a proposal now for imposing a duty on the export of groundnut kernels.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know what is the total quantity of groundnut oil and kernel respectively required for home consumption?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Unfortunately, I have the percentage here and not the quantity. If the hon. Member will give me notice, I shall supply that information.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what control is exercised by Government to curb speculative activity?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Several State Governments have taken action under the Essential Supplies and other relevant Acts. Further action in the matter is also under consideration.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What is the quantity of groundnut cake that is used for agricultural manure and what is the quantity that is used for feeding cattle?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice.

Shri Rudrappa: Is it the intention of Government to cut short the export this year on account of failure of crop or is it their intention to cut short future export also?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As the hon. Member will see from my original reply, registration of overseas sales has been stopped for the time being.

Shri Rudrappa: Is it only for this year, or will it be even for the future?

Shri K. M. Munshi: We cannot say anything about the next year. It depends upon the situation prevailing then.

Crop Control

*1914. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether there is any scheme for crop control in the integrated food production plan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): No. The targets of additional production set under the Integrated Production Plan (for foodgrains) are to be achieved mainly by intensive cultivation schemes which are so drawn up as to provide sufficient incentive to the cultivator. As regards the additional acreage planned to be put under different crops under the plan, except for land reclamation by the Central Tractor Organisation, it is left to the State Governments to bring about the desired cropping pattern by any appropriate means.

The Sowing of Crops is controlled to some extent by the fixation of prices and the legislative restrictions imposed by some State Governments. The Integrated Production Plan however is designed to achieve the targets of additional schemes by Specific Schemes of intensive cultivation.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether any plan for crop control was discussed in the Agricultural Economic Conference at Lucknow?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know what they did: it was a non-official conference.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the disparity in prices in consumer goods is because of lack of control of crops in the country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I cannot answer a question on high economics.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the hon. Minister has got any information in his possession that some of the States—Part A and Part B—have brought about certain schemes with regard to crop control? If so, which are those States and what are those schemes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In Bombay we have the Bombay Growth of Food Crops Act, which has been recently extended to Cutch and adopted by Saurashtra by ordinance. The C.P. and Berar have got a Cultivation of Fallow Lands Act, in which production of approved crops is permitted. In East Punjab, there is the Utilisation of Lands Act. The Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning Act gives power to Government to control the cultivation of specified crops and to bring under cultivation any waste land.

By ordinance the Government of India have delegated certain powers to some other States under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act. Under this, the Madhya Bharat Crop Control Order, the Madras Land Utilisation Order and the Madhya Bharat Land Utilisation Ordinance have been issued.

Some State Governments have attempted crop regulation by indirect incentives.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that the 'Grow More Food Campaign' has lost its separate identity and has been merged in the integrated food production plan?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think it is correct, because the 'Grow More Food Campaign' has been integrated not with a view that it should be eliminated, but in order that it may be strengthened.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know, Sir, what is the total extent of the area that has been brought under control as a result of these ordinances and legislation.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is there any country, other than India, with food scarcity, which has legislation for control of crop and food production?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I must make enquiries far and wide.

Shri T. N. Singh: The hon. Minister stated that under the integrated scheme crop control as such is not being done, but emphasis is being laid on intensive cultivation. May I know, Sir, whether it is not true that under this integrated scheme there is also a plan to regulate particular crops and their production?

Shri K. M. Munshi: With regard to intensive cultivation schemes the proposal is that they must grow a certain percentage of food grains before grants are given to them. In that way some control is being exercised.

Movement of Goods

*1915. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagon miles covered by goods during the year 1950; and

(b) how does the figure compare with those of the last three years?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): Operating statistics of Indian Railways are compiled for the financial year only and not by calendar year. The information given, therefore, relates to the respective financial years only.

(a) in terms of four-wheelers, 2,625,420,000 on Class I Railways during the financial year 1949-50.

(b) 1946-47*—2,328,104,000; 1947-48—2,210,533,000; 1948-49—2,317,866,000.

Seth Govind Das: In this increase, in which line and in which State has the increase been uppermost.

Shri Santhanam: The Railways do not act according to the States: this is all on the Indian Railways.

Seth Govind Das: My question was in reference to the lines; not alone in regard to States.

Shri Santhanam: I have not got separate figures for each railway administration.

Export of Cows

*1916. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cows or oxen exported out of India during 1949-50 and during the first six months of 1950-51; and

(b) whether it is proposed to ban completely the export of cows etc., in view of the great scarcity of milk and milk products?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Nil.

(b) Export of cattle outside India is prohibited except in very special cases where the cattle asked for by a foreign country are small in number and are required for experimental or breeding purposes only.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : विदेशों को भेजने के सिवा एक स्टेट से दूसरी स्टेट को जो गायें भेजी जाती हैं, क्या उनके सम्बन्ध में भी गवर्नमेंट कोई प्रतिबन्ध की बात सोच रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Whether the Government are contemplating to impose any restrictions on the movement of cows from one State to another apart from their export to the foreign countries?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know exactly. But my impression is—I am speaking subject to correction—some States have put some kind of ban.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि खास कर पंजाब से, बम्बई और कलकत्ता बहुत सी गायें भेजी जाती हैं और वहां पर उनका दूध

*Excludes B.A. and N.W. Railways.

सूखते ही उनका बध कर दिया जाता है, क्या इस तरह का इक्सपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट बन्द करने की बात सोच रही है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that many cows are exported from Punjab to Bombay and Calcutta and they are slaughtered as soon as they go dry and whether the Government are contemplating to stop such exports?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: This relates to inter-provincial movement. I should like to have notice of that question.

ROADS IN VINDHYA PRADESH (CONSTRUCTION)

*1917. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state how many new roads have been undertaken to be built by the Vindhya Pradesh Government since 1948 and in what parts of the country?

(b) Have any of them been completed so far?

(c) When was the work on Chandla-Laundi Road started and how many miles of road has been completed so far?

(d) How long is it likely to take to complete this work?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Sixteen, out of which ten lie in the Baghelkhand Division and six in the Bundelkhand Division.

(b) One work has been completed and another is expected to be completed by March, 1951.

(c) November, 1950. Road metal has been collected in two miles.

(d) It is hoped the work will be completed in the year 1951-52.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether any amount had been earmarked for the construction of roads for each State?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. For each Part C State a certain sum of money is set apart and it is shown in the Budget.

Shri Dwivedi: What is that amount?

Shri Santhanam: The total is Rs. 22·36 lakhs.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know what is the share which Madhya Bharat, Vindhya Pradesh and Bhopal got out of this amount?

Shri Santhanam: This amount is for Vindhya Pradesh.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if there is any programme for the coming year for the construction of new roads and the betterment of existing ones?

Shri Santhanam: The roads which have not been completed will be taken up and completed progressively.

POLITICAL SUFFERERS IN VINDHYA PRADESH

*1918. **Shri Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the political sufferers who have been given some kind of monetary aid in Vindhya Pradesh;

(b) whether any of such persons had any certificates of their sufferings from any authoritative sources; and

(c) whether any political party or organisation was consulted before giving such aid?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Five.

(b) and (c). The Ministry of the time is reported to have made the selection. There is no record of the basis on which this selection was made.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know the total number of applications received in this connection, and how many of them were sanctioned?

Shri Gopalaswami: I know of five cases in which sanction was given.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it a fact that the Chief Commissioner sanctions these applications at his own sweet will and there is nobody to advise him in this matter?

Shri Gopalaswami: On the other hand I find that in most of the five cases the grants were first given by the Ministers—some of them of the Vindhya Pradesh Government, others of the individual State Governments—and they were subsequently ratified by the Chief Commissioner.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the amount given, may I know?

Shri Gopalaswami: In one case it was Rs. 30 per mensem, in the second case Rs. 5 per mensem, in the third case Rs. 5 again, in the fourth case Rs. 25 per mensem and in the last case Rs. 30 per mensem.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know the names of all the recipients?

Shri Gopalaswami: The first case was the widow of the late Shri Narain Das Khare, a political worker of Tikamgarh, the second case was a daughter of the same person, the third case was the mother of the late Shri Madho Prasad Gupta, the fourth case was the widow of the late Shri Kalka Prasad and the fifth case was Shri Gayasilal Gupta.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the idea of giving Rs. 5 a month?

Mr. Speaker: He could follow it if he had followed the answer. The recipient of the five rupees is the daughter of the mother who is given thirty rupees.

AGRICULTURAL INDEBTEDNESS

*1920. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the time when the last enquiry into Agricultural indebtedness on an all-India basis was held?

(b) Is there any proposal before Government to hold a fresh enquiry into the matter and if so, when?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) In 1930, by the Indian Central Banking Enquiry Committee.

(b) No.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know the total volume of debt as established by that Enquiry?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice of that question.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know what steps the Government are taking, particularly in Part C States, to relieve the agriculturist classes of this indebtedness?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think any particular steps are being taken, but I am not sure about it.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is there any information with Government as to the extent of land that is being gradually transferred from the agriculturist classes to non-agriculturist classes as a result of this indebtedness?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got the information.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee headed by Prof. D. R. Gadgil appointed by the Central Government has studied this question of indebtedness before they made their recommendations?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee has held that there is a strong and widespread feeling, expressed both in the replies addressed to the Committee and elsewhere, that as a result of the post-war developments there has been a substantial reduction of rural indebtedness.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it proposed that with the assistance of the Reserve Bank steps may be taken to provide credit facilities in the rural areas instead of holding an enquiry just at present?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Report of the Reserve Bank is under consideration.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: What steps do Government propose to take so that agricultural land may not pass into the hands of non-agriculturists?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There are laws designed to prevent this taking place.

DEEP-SEA FISHING

*1921. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what progress has so far been made in executing Government's plan for deep-sea fishing?

(b) What has been the average quantity of catch per day in experiments carried out so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The progress made in executing Government's plan for deep-sea fishing was indicated in replies to Starred Questions Nos. 1281 and 260 by Shri V. C. Kesava Rao and Shri Upendranath Barman on the 22nd of March, 1949 and the 16th of February, 1950, respectively. Besides surveying and charting of fishing grounds within a radius of 200 to 250 miles North West of Bombay Harbour during different seasons and collecting other data necessary for commercial fishing around the Bombay Coast, the fishing vessels attached to the Deep-Sea Fishing Station, Bombay have brought upto the end of January, 1951 13,088 mds. and 25 seers of fish, which fetched a sum of Rs. 2,77,011-7-0 gross. In addition, training is imparted to suitable candidates in deep-sea fishing methods.

With financial assistance from the Centre, the Government of West Bengal have also started deep-sea fishing in the Bay of Bengal. Two Danish vessels purchased for this purpose have recently started operations, but these are still in the initial stages.

(b) The average catch per fishing day by each trawler up-to-date is 21 maunds. The average catch by each of the smaller vessels (commonly known as Reekie Boats) during 1949-50 season was 10 maunds, but figures for 1950-51 season are not yet available.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know the total number of vessels that were engaged in 1949 and that are engaged now in 1951 for these operations?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that question.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if there was recently a Conference in Madras on this question and if there are any specific recommendations which the Government propose to implement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There was a Conference held last month in Madras and after the Conference met for more than about a week they have made certain recommendations which are being considered by Government.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if Government are extending these operations to inland lakes like the Chilka lake?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, the State Governments are carrying on experiments with regard to fish development in inland lakes like Chilka lake, especially in Orissa, Madras and Uttar Pradesh.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what proportion of this fishing is done by private enterprise, what by State-aided private enterprise and what directly by the State?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Some of the State Governments are taking active interest in these matters and there is very little of private enterprise in this.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if there is any documentary film on this deep-sea fishing, produced by Government and also if any has been sent out to any foreign countries?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of it.

Shri Kamath: From reports available is deep-sea fishing more profitable than fishing in troubled waters nearer the shore?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, fishing in troubled waters is the habit of politicians like my hon. friend.

Shri Kamath: I protest. My question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: By referring to 'troubled waters' the hon. Member himself invited that comment.

Shri Kamath: But what about the question itself?

Shri V. J. Gupta: Is it a fact that the official reports of the Fisheries Department promise very good catch of deep-sea fish at Vizagapatam and, if so, may I know what steps are taken by Government to organize an up-to-date fishing industry there?

Shri Tirumala Rao: In the beginning the Vizag port offered a very good prospect of deep-sea fishing, but from the recent reports it is found that the fish have migrated to other areas and our catches were less too.

Shri Kamath: Is it due to Ministers rather than politicians fishing in troubled waters?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

LICENCES FOR WIRELESS SETS

*1922. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued for the possession of wireless receiving sets during the year 1950;

(b) the amount realised by way of fees;

(c) the amount realised by way of penalties levied for not taking out licences in time;

(d) the number of licences issued during the month of January 1951;

(e) the amount realised by way of fees;

(f) the amount realised by way of penalties; and

(g) the number of licences issued for "community" sets in 1950 and in 1951?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):

(a) Radio Licenses.....5,44,250
Dealers' Licenses.....8,157
Total. 5,52,407

(b) About Rs. 59·96 lakhs.

(c) About Rs. 3·21 lakhs.

(d) to (f). Government have not been able to collect the data required; it will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

(g) 1950 3,260
1951 January 1,128

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know the highest amount recovered in a single case?

Shri Kidwai: The highest amount prescribed was Rs. 50.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether licences are still being renewed after the close of the month of January or have all the licences been renewed in the month of January?

Shri Kidwai: Up to now the practice has been that the licences were to be renewed a year from the date it has been obtained. Under our new rules all the licences issued are renewed only up to the end of the current year, so that from next year all the licences will be renewable in January.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Is it not a fact that all the licences that were issued during the year 1950 were issued so as to expire on the 31st of December?

Shri Kidwai: Not all the licences but since the decision was taken, that is, in the middle of the year, the licences are being renewed only up to the end of December.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether any applications from holders of community sets have been received for concessions and if so, whether any concessions are granted to them?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of any such applications.

Shri A. C. Guha: How many community sets have been licenced in all the States? Is it allowed in all the States?

Shri Kidwai: I think there is no discrimination between States and States.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I ask whether the facility exists in all the States?

Shri Kidwai: I hope so.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Would the hon. Minister give figures for the number of licences issued for Delhi?

Shri Kidwai: No separate figures are available.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether the Ministry of Communications maintains any contact with the Ministry of Commerce in order to find out the total number of wireless sets imported into this country?

Shri Kidwai: No.

Sardar Sochet Singh: Are there any monthly, quarterly or half-yearly rates of licence fee in the case of those who apply during the course of the year?

Shri Kidwai: As I said, we have recently introduced it, so that we may bring all the licences from January to December.

Mr. Speaker: The point is that, supposing a man applies in July, will he be charged for the entire year?

Shri Kidwai: Up to now it used to be the entire year, but for this year we have introduced it, so that we may end the licences in December.

Shri Dwivedi: Is there a change of procedure for applying for licences and if so, what is the cause for this change?

Shri Kidwai: I have replied to that and the reason is that no reminders need be sent. Everyone will know that they will have to renew their licences in January.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: Will the hon. Minister kindly collect the information of licences issued State by State and lay it on the Table of the House?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member puts down a question, the information will be collected.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know what is the method employed by the Ministry of Communications to check up whether all the sets that have been imported in this country by private owners are duly registered by taking out licences?

Shri Kidwai: The dealers are not allowed to sell any set without assuring themselves that the private owner of the set has duly taken a licence.

ASSAM RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION

*1923. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state why the administration of Assam Railway has incurred loss, if any, during the last few years?

(b) What is the extent of loss incurred during the last four years?

(c) What measures of remedy, if any, have been adopted by Government?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The loss incurred was due to relatively low earnings and comparatively high expenditure.

(b) Losses during the years for which actuals are available were as follows:

1947-48
(15-8-47 to 31-3-48) ... Rs. 121 lakhs.
1948-49 ... ... Rs. 349 lakhs.
1949-50 ... ... Rs. 494 lakhs.

(c) Steps have been taken to reduce Working Expenses by effecting economies in cost of fuel and establishment

expenditure and postponing works of less urgency. Similarly measures have been taken to improve earnings by better utilisation of wagons and enforcing stricter check on ticketless travel.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Has the Government made any attempt during the last few years to find out the most chronic causes and what steps have been taken to remove them?

Shri Santhanam: The chronic cause is the nature of the country through which the Railway passes.

SHILLONG-AGARTALA ROAD

*1924. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the construction of the Shillong-Agartala Road;

(b) when it would be completed; and

(c) the percentage of expenditure to be borne by the Government of Assam?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Shillong-Jowai-Badarpur-Lowairpowa-Churaibari-Agartala road. This road is motorable up to Passi, a little beyond Jowai and from near Badarpur along existing roads to the Tripura border. About 30 miles within Tripura are also motorable with difficulty but there are large gaps between the motorable sections. Construction from Passi to the Lubha river on the Passi-Badarpur section is expected to commence shortly. Work on the Churaibari-Agartala road is in progress and it is hoped this portion of the road will be ready for fair-weather light traffic before the rains.

(b) The total work will be completed so as to be fit for light traffic by 1954 if sufficient funds can be provided.

(c) As at present estimated, only 1½ per cent. of the expenditure.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know, Sir, what is the extent of loss if any due to changing the old one and making a new alignment?

Shri Santhanam: I have got the estimates for the present programme of the roads. Regarding the loss incurred in the previous project, I remember to have dealt with it in detail during the last Budget debates, in which I had some trouble.

Shri Saprawnga: May I know the approximate length of the road to be constructed, and the approximate cost to be involved for the construction?

Shri Santhanam: The Lowairpowa-Churaibari-Agartala Road has a length of about 140 miles and Passi-Badarpur Road about 90 miles. The approximate cost of construction of the former is Rs. 235 lakhs and that of the latter Rs. 100 lakhs.

Shri Saprawnga: May I know what makes it necessary to build the roads at such a cost?

Shri Santhanam: The need for communications and defence.

Shri Saprawnga: Is there any other place in Assam similarly situated as Agartala for purposes of defence and communications?

Shri Santhanam: There may be, Sir, but we have to connect Tripura with Assam as it is entirely segregated from India at present.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the amount so far spent and whether Government is satisfied that the amount spent has been rightly spent and whether the work is progressing according to time schedule?

Shri Santhanam: At present the work is progressing very well and we have a tight control over the expenditure.

Shri A. C. Guha: What other means of communications have the people of Agartala with other parts of India?

Shri Santhanam: There is the air-lift, I think.

Shri A. C. Guha: Except that, there is nothing.

Shri Santhanam: There is the usual track road for miles and cart tracks.

Mr. Speaker: I think the Question Hour is over.

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is one minute. The next question is rather important.

Mr. Speaker: Then I will call the next question.

DINING CARS ON RAILWAYS

*1925. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the service of the dining cars, attached with certain trains, in certain cases, is reserved for higher classes of passengers only?

(b) If so, what is the reason for such distinction when a passenger of lower class is ready to pay for that service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Although dining cars are intended primarily for the use of First and Second Class passengers, the service is available to all classes of passengers inasmuch as Inter and Third Class passengers also can avail of it on payment of the difference between the Second Class fare and the fares already paid by them for the distance travelled in the dining car. On some Railways, Third and Inter Class passengers are also supplied meals and refreshments in their compartments from dining cars.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

LOCUST MENACE

Sardar B. S. Man: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large scale locust menace is now threatening the countryside;

(b) if so, the area affected; and

(c) the arrangements made to combat the menace?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) During the Summer of 1950, foreign swarms from across our western borders had penetrated into the country as far as Bihar in the east, and Madhya Pradesh and Bombay in the south, and there was a large scale breeding over an area of 80,000 sq. miles, mostly in the permanent desert breeding tracts of Rajasthan. The Summer-monsoon breeding was successfully controlled, but about two dozen swarms of late immigrants again invaded the country between September and November, 1950, visiting Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Cutch, Saurashtra and parts of the Bombay State. Breeding this time was confined largely to the cultivated areas, which could not be controlled very successfully owing to religious susceptibilities of the people. About half a dozen swarms, which had developed as a result of this breeding are now roaming in the Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Himachal Pradesh, etc. I recently learn that two swarms have come in the third week of February from Western Pakistan, one via Amritsar and the other via Ferozepur District.

(c) Since 1939, the Government of India are maintaining a permanent Locust Warning Organisation for intelligence work, which was considerably expanded in 1950, and a control wing was added to it for organising anti-locust work in the desert breeding areas, fully equipped with motor vehicles, power-operated dusters, synthetic insecticides, etc. The vulnerable States have also set up parallel organisations for undertaking control in cultivated areas within their respective jurisdictions.

Sardar B. S. Man: When was the threat of invasion and the presence of locust swarms first brought to the notice of the Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: First of all, in 1949, Government of India was warned that a fresh locust cycle had commenced in all the countries situated in the desert local belt extending from India to Pakistan, Middle East Countries up to West Africa.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it a fact that this locust cycle in India began to breed in Ferozpur and certain parts of Rajasthan, and that the swarms which had come from the Persian Gulf and other Middle East countries were breeding all the time in certain parts of Rajasthan and in Ferozepur and in certain other parts of Punjab and may I know why effective steps were not taken to kill these locusts even at the hopper stage?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have mentioned already in my reply that they were breeding over an area of 80,000 square miles and prompt steps were taken to kill them. A few swarms escaped because it was not possible to kill all of them, as I pointed out, on account of religious susceptibilities. These swarms grew and are flying over the Punjab besides the two new swarms which are coming as an advance guard of the anticipated invasion in summer.

Sardar B. S. Man: I am not asking about the swarms which have subsequently come over from the western borders or from the Middle East countries. I am asking, when the fact of this threat was brought to the notice of the Government as early as one year ago, why steps were not taken to kill them effectively at the hopper stage when they are unable to fly.

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly what he has replied.

Sardar B. S. Man: What I say is that they are now flying. I am not referring to the locusts that have recently come.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has not caught the first part of the answer. The answer was that it covered a wide area of 80,000 square miles,

that all possible steps were taken and still it was not possible to reach particular areas effectively.

Sardar B. S. Man: Arising out of part (b), what has been the approximate loss caused to the crops so far?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The figures vary. In the Punjab it is placed somewhere between 10,000 and 15,000 tons; I think on certain grounds it is a bit exaggerated. It is very difficult to estimate the loss at this stage accurately.

Sardar B. S. Man: How much money does Government receive from the International Locust Fund, and how much has the Central Government spent from its own funds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice: I am not sure as to what amount was received from foreign countries. There is a budget of 18 lakhs so far as locusts are concerned.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: May I know in what places the religious susceptibilities stood in the way of the destruction of these locusts?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not want to mention the places; I have mentioned them on more than one occasion. It offends the susceptibilities of Members from those parts.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the Government have the co-operation of Pakistan in combating this menace?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Oh yes. At the International Locust Conference Pakistan also was represented, and I think, therefore, that they co-operate.

Thakur Lal Singh: Bhopal has not been mentioned. Am I to assume that this locust menace has not touched Bhopal?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It has.

Sardar B. S. Man: Has any arrangement been made for the provision of mobile units at the disposal of Central Locust Organisation here at the Centre or in the States?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Central Organisation has a unit and several land rovers, power operating dusters. Some of them were immediately placed at the disposal of the Punjab Government as soon as intimation was received.

Mr. Speaker: I think we have taken a sufficiently long time over this. Let us go to the next question.

ESCAPE OF A PROSECUTION WITNESS IN THE CASE AGAINST MIR LAIK ALI OF HYDERABAD.

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Colonel Hassan, an important prosecution witness in the case against Mir Laik Ali, formerly of Hyderabad, has escaped to Pakistan;

(b) whether it is a fact that he took his permit to visit Pakistan under the assumed name of "Pinto", the same as that of the President of the Special Tribunal;

(c) the date and the circumstances in which he escaped to Pakistan; and

(d) whether any enquiry is being held in the matter?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). Colonel Hassan, who is a witness in the ex-Ministers' Case, was bound over to appear as a witness when called upon to do so, by an order of Special Tribunal IV. His personal bond for Rs. 10,000 was accepted in view of the fact that he owned a house in Hyderabad valued at Rs. 45,000. On 16-9-50 he applied to the Special Tribunal for permission to go to Bombay for medical treatment and permission was granted. He left Hyderabad on 2-11-50 without notifying the Police who came to know of it only on 7th November, 1950 and immediately alerted the Bombay Police. An Officer of the Hyderabad Police was deputed to Bombay on 11th November, 1950 and enquiries made by him revealed that Colonel Hassan and his wife left by air for Karachi on 3rd November, 1950 under the assumed name of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Pinto. The Custodian of the Evacuee Property has been notified of the Colonel's departure to Pakistan and the Army authorities have been requested to withhold his pension and gratuity pending further orders.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I know whether the property belonging to Col. Hassan at Hyderabad has been forfeited?

Shri Gopalaswami: That has been declared to be evacuee property. The question of forfeiture can arise only after summons is issued to him for appearance as witness and he fails to do so.

Shri Kamath: Was there an identity check at the airport in Bombay and has any report come to Government to that effect?

Shri Gopalaswami: Whether there was a check or not, he successfully passed through to Pakistan.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that Col. Hassan used to be invited to Government functions and receptions in Hyderabad and was considered a favourite of Government?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know whether he was a favourite with the Government or not; but I imagine that, being an army officer of rank, he should have been invited to a lot of important functions in Hyderabad.

Shri Kamath: Sir, how many witnesses or accused in this Mir Laik Ali case have so far escaped from Hyderabad?

Shri Gopalaswami: As far as I know only Mir Laik Ali has escaped, amongst the accused.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know Sir, whether the amount of the surety has been recovered from the sureties?

Mr. Speaker: No, it is a presonal bond.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: What is the number of police officers who have been sacked for their assistance or complicity in the escape of Mir Laik Ali?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid that is going into the details of the administration in Hyderabad.

Shri Joachim Alva: Sir, in view of the great feeling prevailing in this House last March arising out of Mir Laik Ali's escape did the Centre issue any directive to the State in regard to these accused and witnesses to say that if there is any negligence or laxity, stringent measures will be taken?

Shri Gopalaswami: Mir Laik Ali was an accused person in that case. He was in custody and he escaped from that custody. Col. Hassan was only a witness in that case. What the prosecution was interested in was to secure his appearance when wanted for the purposes of the case. They took a bond from him. Originally, I think a ban was placed upon his moving outside Hyderabad, under the Public Safety Regulation of the State. That Regulation subsequently was held to be *ultra vires* by the High Court of Hyderabad. The only thing that could be done was to take a bond from him, and that was taken.

Kumari Padmaja Naidu: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how many such escapes there have been either from jail or hospitals or the High Court or from house arrests, during the last two years?

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member mean escapes in Hyderabad?

Kumari Padmaja Naidu: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid it is again going into details about Hyderabad administration.

Kumari Padmaja Naidu: Is it a fact Sir, that during the last four years the expenditure on the Police has increased from Rs. 71 lakhs to Rs. 5 crores in Hyderabad?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is a fact, Sir.

Kumari Padmaja Naidu: Does the hon. Minister propose to take steps to increase the efficiency of the Police there?

Shri Gapalaswami: Steps are being taken to increase the efficiency of the Police.

Dr. M. C. Reddy: Sir, from the number of witnesses for the prosecution in the so-called Mir Laik Ali case, how many years does the hon. Minister think this trial will take and when does he expect the case to be finally disposed of?

Shri Gopalaswami: The hearing, I believe, has just been taken up before the court which has been designated for that purpose.

Mr. Speaker: I think we are going into the details of the Hyderabad administration. We shall stop here.

Shri Kamath: Only one more question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: And that will be the last.

Shri Kamath: Have Government received reports that former high ranking officers of the Nizam's administration, such as Maj. Gen. El. Edroos and others are thinking of certain plans for escaping from Hyderabad and have Government taken any steps to tighten the watch on them as well as those connected with the Mir Laik Ali case?

Shri Gopalaswami: Gen. El. Edroos is still in Hyderabad, and I am certain

the police will look after him and others if they are preparing to go to Pakistan. I cannot say whether any special restrictions have been put on him.

Shri Joachim Alva: Sir, I would like to...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Joachim Alva: Sir, I had also given notice of.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I go to the next item.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Provident and Pension Funds of Displaced Railway Employees

*1900. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the number of Railway employees who have come from Pakistan and whose Provident Funds and Pension Funds have not yet been paid?

(b) How many persons, since their arrival in India from Pakistan, have been paid these funds?

(c) What efforts have been made to expedite payment of these funds to these Railway employees?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The number of railway employees who have come from Pakistan and whose Provident Funds and Pension Funds have not yet been paid is 1,348. This figure does not include those persons who had opted for Pakistan but have migrated to India.

(b) 2,428 persons have been paid their Provident Fund amounts and pensions since their arrival in India from Pakistan.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 12.]

Tourists Traffic

*1901. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state how many tourists arrived in India during the year 1950 from foreign countries?

(b) What was the dollar gain by Government thereby?

(c) How many offices for tourists' convenience have been opened in India and what is the total expenditure incurred on these offices?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Arrangements have been made for the collection of tourist statistics at all customs ports from January, 1951. Complete statistics for 1950 regarding foreign tourists to India are not available. The returns for the period September, 1950 to December, 1950 for all ports except Bombay show that 2048 foreign tourists visited India during this period.

(b) The Reserve Bank are working out the details of a scheme by which reliable estimates for income from tourist traffic can be obtained. Meanwhile it is not possible to estimate the income from this source.

(c) Government have opened regional tourist offices at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. The expenditure incurred on these offices during the current financial year is Rs. 1,25,000.

रायपुर तथा बिलासपुर के हवाई अड्डे

*१९१९. **श्री जांगड़े :** संचरण मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) जैसा गत आय व्ययक सत्र में बचन दिया गया था, उसके अनुसार क्या सरकार ने रायपुर तथा बिलासपुर में हवाई अड्डे निर्माण किये हैं; तथा

(ख) इन हवाई अड्डों के निर्माण कार्य के पूर्ण होने में कितना समय लग जायेगा ?

Aerodromes at Raipur and Bilaspur

[*1919. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constructed aerodromes at Raipur and Bilaspur as was promised in the last Budget Session; and

(b) how long will it take to complete the construction of these aerodromes?]

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). There are serviceable aerodromes at Raipur and Bilaspur which were constructed during the war by the late War Department and which have since been taken over by the Civil Aviation Department and provided with certain essential facilities required for Civil air transport operations.

Prototype Coaches

*1926. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prototype coaches of the new design for which order was placed on Schlieren in Switzerland have been received; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether these have undergone the required test under traffic conditions and if so, with what results?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The two prototype coaches ordered on Messrs. Schlieren in Switzerland will be delivered ex-works by the end of March, 1951. They are expected to reach India in May or June, 1951.

(b) The question does not arise.

Catering Contracts

*1927. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which Railway catering contractors, both big and small, were found fault with for (i) bad food-stuff, (ii) bad service and (iii) sub-letting in the year 1948-49 and 1949-50 (year and contractor-wise); and

(b) in how many cases the contractors were displaced?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A detailed statement of the information required by the hon. Member is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 13.] It has been prepared for the calendar years 1949 and 1950, for which information is readily available.

(b) Thirty.

Milk

*1928. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Centres in Delhi and New Delhi where retail sale of good quality pasteurised milk is effected by the Delhi Milk Supply Committee under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research?

(b) the retail price of such milk per seer;

(c) the maximum daily quantity of milk available for sale at each of these Centres;

(d) the maximum quantity of milk permitted to be sold at these Centres to any individual customer; and

(e) the names of the Dairy Farms from which such milk is brought into the Centres referred to in part (a) above?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Centres for retail sale of milk have not so far been opened but it is proposed to begin with two centres from the 8th March, 1951.

(b) The retail price of milk has been fixed at eleven and half annas per seer ex-sales depot for the present.

(c) The maximum quantity has not been fixed as it will vary according to requirements of customers and total availability of milk.

(d) Not fixed; but it is proposed to regulate it in relation to supply and demand after the sales depots have functioned for some time.

(e) The supply of milk has been arranged from villages in the Delhi State and a co-operative milk union in Uttar Pradesh under a scheme financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Food Situation in Madras

*1929. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Food Minister of Madras in the Madras Assembly on 13th February 1951 regarding the serious situation, the Madras Government would have to face when the harvested stocks were exhausted; and

(b) what arrangements Government propose to take to enable the Madras Government to face the serious food situation which would become inevitable on the exhaustion of the harvested stocks?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Government of India have increased the import quota of Madras State for 1951 from 4 lakh to 5 lakh tons. The Government of India are closely watching the food situation in Madras and will take all suitable steps which may be found necessary from time to time.

FOOD PROCUREMENT AND ISSUE PRICES

*1930. **Shri M. L. Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it has been ascertained as to how the Bombay Government manage to maintain a difference of Re. 1 only in their procurement and issue prices when other States are having difference of Rs. 3 to Rs. 10 per maund?

(b) Can the same procedure be adopted for other States so that the complaint of cultivators is reduced?

(c) What action do Government propose to take on the representation made by the States to allow them more power and liberty to revise the procurement prices and control the movement of food grains?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). The Government of Bombay maintain a difference of only seven per cent. over the procurement price up to the retail stage in respect of the locally procured food grains. This is a theoretical figure not related to actual cost and is justified by the Government of Bombay on two grounds (i) although procurement is done by the revenue department at the purchasing centres where grain is delivered in clean condition in government godowns, the cost of procurement is debited not to the Civil Supplies Department, but to the revenue Department; (ii) the intensive system of procurement and rationing in force in Bombay involves distribution of locally procured grains generally within the same district which reduces cost of transport, shortage, etc. The difference between the procurement price and the retail issue price cannot be uniform in all the States owing to basic differences in conditions of procurement, transport, and distribution up to retail stage. The highest difference between procurement and retail issue rates allowed at present is Rs. 4/9/- per maund in case of Tripura where cost of transport is very high.

(c) Government of India have the responsibility for the co-ordination of controls and prices in the different States and for maintaining the price level. Though in practice they do their utmost to meet the wishes of the State Governments, they cannot give the States liberty to do as they like, as action by a State may adversely affect its neighbours.

FLAG STATIONS ON S. I. RAILWAYS

*1931. **Shri R. Subramanian:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether flag stations on the S.I. Railway were abolished during war time?

(b) If so, how many such stations were abolished?

(c) What was the income derived per year from such stations?

(d) How many of them were restarted after the war?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). 14 flag stations were closed during the war.

(c) Rs. 45,934 in all per year or on an average of nearly Rs. 3,280 per year per station.

(d) All the 14 have since been restored.

CEREAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RAJASTHAN RATIONING

*1932. **Shri Sardar Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cereal requirements for rationing in Rajasthan for 1951 is 2,40,000 tons and the procurement target is only 1,80,000 tons, leaving a deficiency of 60,000 tons; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to meet the deficiency?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Though Rajasthan had accepted the position that it was sulf-sufficient the latest estimate given by the Rajasthan Government is that their deficit in 1951 will be 70,000 tons.

(b) Government of India, while of the view that this deficit can be considerably brought down by intensifying procurement in Rajasthan, have nevertheless made allotments totalling 11,500 tons during the first three months of the year and will render all possible help within their power as occasion requires during the coming months.

SUPPLY OF ICE AND AERATED WATER ON RAILWAYS

*1933. **Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article by Mr. G. H. Brown, General Manager, Thos. Cook and Sons, Limited, in the Puja Number of the East Indian Railway Magazine regarding supply of Ice and Aerated Waters to the travelling public on Railways; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the steps taken to remove the allegations levelled in that article, and if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Ice and aerated waters of good quality can now be obtained in many areas and it is no longer considered necessary to allow the free carriage of these commodities for long distances to ensure the purity of supplies to passengers. Local supplies are, however, permitted only from factories which have been certified by a Public Health Authority. In consequence of some complaints of unsatisfactory service, the question of whether some relaxation of the ban on free carriage is necessary, is under examination.

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

120. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) by what per cent. the sugar content of sugar-cane has declined since 1945-46;

(b) the causes of the decline; and

(c) the steps taken by Government if any, to restore the deficit?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) By one-fourth per cent.—from 10·13 per cent. in 1945-46 to 9·88 per cent. in 1949-50.

(b) The causes of the fall in recovery are:

(i) deterioration in the quality of cane supplied to sugar factories; and

(ii) slight fall in the technical efficiency of sugar factories.

The sugar in cane and the overall recovery of sugar from cane in 1945-46 were 12·50 per cent. and 80·88 per cent. respectively as against 12·24 per cent. and 80·07 per cent. respectively in 1949-50.

(c) A 5-year Sugarcane Development Scheme has been put into operation since 1948-49 in most important sugarcane-growing States of the Indian Union for improving both the yield and the quality of sugarcane. With the improvement in the quality of cane the sugar recovery should increase.

Advice and assistance are given to the sugar factories by the Indian Institute of Sugar Technology for improving technical efficiency.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 7th March 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CULTURAL RELATIONS COUNCIL

*1934. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the work done so far by the Cultural Relations Council?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The Council has done the following work to strengthen cultural ties among Asian countries.....

Dr. Deshmukh: On a point of order, Sir, would it not be possible for the hon. Minister who is required to be continuously absent, to ask some particular Minister to deputise for him, so that he may acquire a little more knowledge? Otherwise, to most of the questions, he wants notice. I would like to bring this to your notice.

Shri A. P. Jain: I will request the hon. Member to give me a trial at least today.

Shri Sondhi: The other day, we gave a trial to the hon. Minister of State for Finance; he now wants us to try him.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): I hope I did not fail you.

Shri Sondhi: We do not know.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister will now be more careful.

Shri A. P. Jain: The Council has done the following work to strengthen cultural ties among Asian countries:

(i) Published a quarterly journal in Arabic "Thaqafat-ul-Hind" (Indian Culture);

(ii) Subsidised the English quarterly "Indo-Iranica" of the Iranian Society of Calcutta to bring out a Section in Persian;

(iii) Instituted and financed in co-operation with "Anjuman-e-Iran Shinasi" of Iran, a Chair in Sanskrit and Indian Cluture at Tehran University;

(iv) Built up a Library of Sanskrit books in Tehran;

(v) Sponsored the visit of a well known Indian Dance Troupe to Cairo, Alexandra and Beirut;

(vi) Built up a library in Delhi providing facilities for study of history and culture of Indian and Asian countries.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know how many countries have offered co-operation with this Council?

Shri A. P. Jain: Turkey, Egypt, Iran, Afghanistan, Iraq, Indonesia and Ceylon.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the Government propose to start branches of the Council in some of the countries like the British Council?

Shri A. P. Jain: This Council intends to establish relations with the countries in the immediate neighbourhood of India in the East and West. It is possible that some sort of a branch will be set up.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is proposed to attach a Research Section to the Council?

Shri A. P. Jain: There is no such proposal at the moment.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What is the amount spent on the organ that has been started?

Shri A. P. Jain: I require notice of that question.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what other countries were approached in this connection, what countries have accepted and what countries have declined to accept any cultural relations with India?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have mentioned the countries which have accepted cultural relationship. There is no mention of any country on the file which has refused to establish relations.

Shri Shiva Rao: What is the composition of this Council and what was the basis of selection of the Members by the Education Ministry?

Shri A. P. Jain: The constitution of the Council is, two representatives from each of the Universities of India, recognised by the governing body of the Council from time to time, two representatives from each of the countries constituting the regional section set up by the Council, one representative from each of the various cultural and educational institutions of India recognised by the governing body of the Council from time to time, not more than 30 persons nominated by the President, one representative from each of the local Councils. That is a long list.

Shri Shiva Rao: What is the total number?

Shri A. P. Jain: Forty-seven universities and institutions in India are represented on the Council by one or two persons; seven foreign countries are represented each by one person and some by two persons; the President has nominated 29 persons. The total of these is the total number.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Sondhi: May I ask one question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: We have taken more than five minutes; we will go to the next question.

SHANTI-NIKETAN

*1935. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Secretary of Shanti-Niketan recently approached the Government for Governmental help to stabilise the financial position of the institution;

(b) if so, whether Government have promised any help;

(c) whether it is a fact that Vishwa-Bharati has not yet been given a charter for a University; and

(d) if so, the reasons for it?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). No. The Government of India have not received any such request from the Secretary, Vishwa Bharati, Shantiniketan.

(c) and (d). The Government of India propose to introduce shortly a Bill to convert Vishwa Bharati into a Central University.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether in the legislation that is proposed care will be taken to keep in tact the distinct nature of the education that is imparted there?

Shri A. P. Jain: Certainly. That is a university of its own type. Every effort will be made to retain its distinct features.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government has examined the financial position of the University and whether Government is in a position to say what financial assistance is available from outside or from the State Government or from the Centre at the present moment?

Shri A. P. Jain: I require notice of the question.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that a provision has been made in the Budget for assistance to this institution?

Shri A. P. Jain: That can be ascertained from the Budget itself, a copy of which is with the Member.

Shri Sondhi: Is that the information of the Minister? He said 'No' in reply to the question whether Government have promised any help. There is already provision in the Budget. That is our difficulty. Every second day the bowlers of this Ministry are changed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister need not answer that question.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the present Degrees and Certificates that are granted by the Vishwa Bharati are recognised by the Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: I believe, I am not sure, that the Bill is intended to achieve that object.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

JUDGES OF HIGH COURTS OF INDIA

*1936. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether there are any over-age judges in some of the High Courts of India?

(b) If so, what are the considerations therefor?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Yes, there are five, all in the Part B State High Courts.

(b) Most of these Judges were already in service at the time of the commencement of the Constitution. It was considered contrary to the interests of the administration of Justice suddenly to send away these Judges who had been specially brought in because of their experience as Judges in Provincial High Courts and look out for suitable younger men.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I take it that there will be no termination of their services then?

Shri Rajagopalachari: That may be left, I submit, to the officers concerned.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government takes care to see that they are mentally and physically fit to carry on their work?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; an obvious answer.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Constitution provides that the age of the High Court Judges should not be more than sixty, and if they are past sixty, is it not against the Constitution?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I do not think that any unconstitutional thing has been done; but, if it is really a matter of law that is raised, I would like to have notice.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the age of the oldest Judge?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The Saurashtra High Court has Mr. Justice Diwatia, Chief Justice. He is a retired Judge of the Bombay High Court as hon. Members know. He is 65 years old, I am 71.

Shri Nathwani: Sir, does the hon. Minister know that Mr. Justice Diwatia has already retired and is not functioning as a Judge of the High Court of Saurashtra?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am speaking from papers. The hon. Member is probably speaking from personal knowledge.

Shri Kamath: Sir, in view of the fact that the hon. Minister referred to himself in answering a question now, am I to understand that the Minister considers the possibility of himself becoming a judge?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes.

BUILDING FOR RESERVE BANK OF INDIA IN DELHI

*1937. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state when will the new building for the Reserve Bank of India in Delhi be constructed?

(b) What is the total amount sanctioned for the building?

(c) Within what year is the building likely to be constructed?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (c). It is not possible to give any precise information at this stage. The completion of the building will largely depend on the availability of the required building materials.

(b) No specific amount has yet been sanctioned for the project. The Quantity Surveyor is expected to submit an estimate of the cost of the building shortly.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the plot of land now reserved for the Reserve Bank originally belonged to the Government or was it bought from a private property?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, I want notice.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, the hon. Minister stated that the plans are not ready and therefore he is not in a position to say when the construction of the building will be started. May I know whether his attention has been drawn by the public to the fact that the present arrangement for housing the Reserve Bank is causing great inconvenience to the public and that therefore there is great necessity for a new building for this Bank as early as possible. What is the reason for not starting the construction of this building, is it finance or is it the non-availability of building materials?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, in fact the allotment of this plot was finalised somewhere in the month of April 1949 and it took a lot of time to settle this allotment to the Reserve Bank. And then since the policy was to urbanise the Parliament Street, it was considered that the Reserve Bank to be set up here should have more storeys, that its height should be raised from 60ft. to 70 ft. Therefore they wanted to raise the height of the building and so the plans already prepared had to be given up and new plans taken out. Then again, the land which was first allotted to the Reserve Bank was considered to be too little and it was felt that more land should be acquired. Therefore the completion of the plans was delayed. The plans are ready now, Only the quantity of materials that will be required is being ascertained,

and I think very soon I will be in a position to lay before the House all the details regarding the plan.

Shri Sidhva: But. Sir, the hon. Minister stated that for want of building materials the work of construction has not started. What sort of materials are not available?

Shri Tyagi: I did not say that for want of materials the work has not started. In fact 700 tons of steel is already lying on the site. What I said was that the completion of the building will largely depend on the availability of the required building materials. Besides steel they want bricks and other things. And since the start of the work, it is estimated that it will take about two years to complete it.

Shri Sidhva: Besides steel, have they got cement and.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I go to the next question.

NAVAL AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS

*1938. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether facilities exist in India for the training in naval aeronautical engineering?

(b) If so, how many apprentices were trained in the year 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir may I know what steps are being taken by Government to give training in naval aeronautical engineering in India? How does the Indian Navy get such personnel trained?

Major-General Himatsinhji: It was proposed to start a naval aircraft maintenance school at Cochin; but for various reasons it has been put in abeyance. One reason is the financial stringency. The second is the difficulty of obtaining the necessary equipment. However, the U.K. naval authorities are prepared to train any personnel whom we require to be trained.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India propose to develop a Naval Air Wing as well as Aircraft Carriers, and if so how long it would take to start this work?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Sir, naval aviation can only be developed after we have completed certain preliminaries. For example, we must have a Naval Air station. We have applied to the Communications Minister for the aerodrome at Cochin, where we can train Naval Air pilots and also establish various workshops. The second step is to train naval personnel in flying and ground engineering, and these steps are being taken in hand. Thirdly we must place advance orders in the United Kingdom or other countries for our equipment and naval aeroplanes. Unless these three steps are completed, it is useless starting a naval flying unit or having an aircraft carrier.

Shri Sondhi: Is the hon. Minister quite sure that his scheme for naval aviation has not been put before the Finance Committee and passed?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I think it is before that Committee and it is in the process of being passed.

Shri Sidhva: Then the Minister is not up-to-date.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, has India to pay any money to the United Kingdom for the training facilities given to Indians in naval aviation?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Not for the training facilities, but the trainees have to pay for their general up keep and normal living expenses.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, Mr. Sondhi said that the Finance Committee has passed the proposal of the hon. Minister and the hon. Minister said that it is in the process of being passed. Which is the correct answer, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: The answer is quite obvious. If it has been passed, as Mr. Sondhi says, then it must have happened after the hon. Minister got the note from which he has given the reply. Well, this question does not really call for any information. I go to the next question.

GOLD-SMUGGLING CASES

*1939. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of gold-smuggling cases detected by the Bombay Customs officials in the year 1950?

(b) What is the estimated total value of the gold seized in Bombay by those officials during the same period?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) 123 cases were detected by the Bombay Custom House officials in the year 1950.

(b) Total estimated value is Rs. 54,36,380.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, is it a fact that a Christmas packet received at a Bombay post office contained a diamond worth Rs. 150,000 which was sought to be smuggled into that city?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, I will have to call for details about this particular case.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, has there been any change in policy since the hon. Minister joined the Finance Ministry with regard to the checking of the smuggling cases? Have any fresh orders been issued to make the check more strict?

Shri Tyagi: I am trying to bring more strictness in the work.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, out of the sum of Rs. 54 lakhs. the value of the gold seized, how much gold has been confiscated by Government?

Shri Tyagi: Generally the custom is whenever 'smuggled' gold is apprehended, it is always confiscated.

Shri Sidhva: No, Sir, my question is, of this gold which is seized, how much has been confiscated by Government?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that it has been seized.

Shri Sidhva: Yes, Sir, it has been seized and kept in custody. But I want to know how much has been confiscated by Government?

Shri Tyagi: All the gold that is smuggled and which has been seized, is according to the Sea Customs Act, seized and confiscated.

Shri Gautam: Sir, in addition to Bombay, which are the other routes through which gold is smuggled into India, and what steps do Government take to stop that kind of smuggling?

Shri Tyagi: Through some of the French possessions. May I further add that over and above the cases apprehended by Bombay Customs, 193 other cases of gold worth Rs. 25,86,000 were apprehended by the Collector of Central Excise, Bombay. He too has powers under the Customs Act to operate even beyond Bombay.

Shri Deogirikar: Out of the 123 cases how many are from Goa?

Shri Tyagi: I have not got the break-up of these figures. If the hon. Member is anxious I can have it done.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if in addition to confiscating the smuggled gold the smugglers have to undergo some other punishment?

Shri Tyagi: Under section 23 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, the Reserve Bank, if they so choose, can authorise launching of prosecution against the smugglers.

Shri Kamath: What progress has been made with regard to the investigation into the recent gold smuggling by a Chilean diplomat?

Shri Tyagi: The matter is *sub judice* at present.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that quite a few Haj pilgrims were also detected in gold smuggling at Bombay port?

Shri Tyagi: I have no knowledge. I am sorry I have to plead ignorance of the fact. I will make enquiries.

Shri Sonavane: By what percentage has our gold reserve gone up by the confiscation of this smuggled gold?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sondhi: On a point of clarification, the hon. Minister stated that the gold seized has been confiscated. The other day in reply to a question the hon. Finance Minister said that unless the court decides or the enquiry is complete the seizure will not result in confiscation.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be, it is not a point of order.

Shri Sondhi: Not a point of order: I said point of clarification. There seems to be some discrepancy which I want to be removed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member might ascertain it later on, not here at this stage.

Shri Tyagi: I might clarify that all smuggled gold has to be seized: even that which has to be confiscated has to be seized first.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not propose to allow any further answer.

CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY IN AJMER

*1940. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of cases of corruption and bribery detected in the State of Ajmer and other Centrally Administered Areas during the year 1949-50 and 1950 upto 31st December 1950?

(b) What are the respective number of cases (i) convicted, (ii) discharged, and (iii) under trials?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) 178 during the year 1949-50 and 70 during the year 1950 up to 31st December, 1950.

(b) (i) 53.

(ii) 43.

(iii) 103.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: How many of these were detected by the Central

anti-corruption department and how many by the provincial police?

Shri Rajagopalachari: If by detection the hon. Member means cases taken up for investigation and on which the authorities have reasonable hopes of taking the cases to a court, the number of cases detected by the local police was 77 and by the special police 125: in Ajmer the local police detected 20 cases and the special police 26 cases.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Are there cases which have been under investigation for over a year without any decision as to whether they are to be prosecuted or not?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have already given the number of cases of discharged, convicted and under trial. If any cases have remained on hand for a long time, it must be due to the nature of the cases.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: I am asking about cases which are still under investigation and about which no decision has been arrived at regarding prosecution.

Shri Rajagopalachari: There are some cases still under investigation. The hon. Member will see that the total number of cases taken up were 248 and the total number of the convicted, discharged and under trial comes to 199. There are 49 cases still under investigation.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: How many cases were taken up in Part C States other than Ajmer and Delhi?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question related to Ajmer and other Centrally Administered Areas. The only other areas are Coorg, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. There have been no cases there.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: There are other Part C States such as Vindhya Pradesh.

Shri Rajagopalachari: The Centrally Administered Areas are Ajmer, Coorg, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Mr. Speaker: The question is about Centrally Administered Areas and not about Part C States.

Shri Rajagopalachari: The question was about Centrally Administered Areas. I have not collected figures about Part C States.

Mr. Speaker: Centrally Administered Areas should not be confused with Part C States.

Shri Kamath: How many cases were withdrawn after prosecution had been launched and on whose authority and in what circumstances?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I require notice for that question.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES IN AJMER

*1941. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dispensaries and hospitals existing in the rural and urban areas of the State of Ajmer during the years 1949 and 1950 and the total expenditure incurred thereon by Government in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) whether any travelling dispensaries were started during these years in the rural areas of the State and if so, what is the total amount of expenditure incurred thereon?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The number of dispensaries and hospitals was as follows:

1949	Rural	8.
	Urban	5.
1950	Rural	9.
	Urban	5.

The total expenditure incurred on them was Rs. 3,99,725 during the year 1949-50 and Rs. 5,03,071 up to the 31st December, 1950.

(b) Yes. One Mobile dispensary was started in December, 1949, in the Kekri Sub-Division. The total expenditure incurred on it up to the 31st December 1950, was Rs. 10,036.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether there has been any increase in strength of the staff in dispensaries and hospitals other than the Ajmer Hospital last year?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, Sir. That accounts for the extra expenditure not only on the hospitals but also on the dispensaries that used to be run by the Ajmer Dispensary Fund since they have been taken over by the Government and additional staff and also additional equipment have been provided.

Lala Achint Ram: How many beds are reserved for T.B. patients in those hospitals?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Ajmer hospital has, I believe, 25 beds: I am speaking subject to correction: and in the Madar Sanatorium run by the Mission there are also 25 beds reserved for displaced persons suffering from T.B. (Presumably T.B. seems to have been misheard as D.P.)

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - کیا
سرکار کسی ایسی اسکیم پر غور کر
رہی ہے جس کے ذریعہ دیہات کے
لوگوں کو علاج کی سہولیت زیادہ
پہنچانے کی کوشش کی جائے گی ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Is there any scheme under consideration of Government by which more medical facilities will be provided to the rural areas?]

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is a general question. We are trying to do whatever we can everywhere.

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

*1942. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the institutions giving training in the National Cadet Corps in Parts A, B and C States separately;

(b) the number and strength of the Junior and Senior Men and Women Divisions of the Corps existing in the various institutions, and the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government of India thereon in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(c) by which date the target fixed by the N.C.C. Committee is likely to be reached; and

(d) the total amount of recurring and non-recurring expenditure incurred so far and likely to be incurred in future?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 14.]

(c) The exact date of reaching the target figures (35,000 cadets in the Senior Division and 1,25,000 cadets in the Junior Division) cannot be forecast at this stage as it depends on the following three factors, *viz.* (i) availability of Armed Forces personnel, (ii) equipment required for training purposes, and (iii) the financial commitment which the Central and State Governments can undertake on this organisation.

(d) The expenditure incurred by the Government of India during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 is already given in answer to part (b) of the Question.

The expenditure to be incurred by the Government of India during 1951-52 is:

Recurring—Rs. 46 lacs approximately.

Non-recurring—Rs. 1 lac. approximately.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What is the reason for the non-organisation of women cadets in Part B and Part C States?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The statements show that there are organisations, both senior division and junior division, in Part B and Part C States, though perhaps not on the same scale as in Part A States. The only reason I can give for that is that Part B and Part C States are perhaps in a more fluid state and their Governments have not probably had the time to deal with this question.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question was about the organisation of women cadets in Part B and Part C States.

Major-General Himatsinhji: There are three Girls' Divisions in the country, each consisting of 3 lady officers and 90 girl cadets, one at Ludhiana, one at Calcutta and one at Nagpur. We are not thinking of increasing the number in 1950-51.

Shri Kamath: Has the Minister's attention been drawn to his colleague, the Health Minister's speech against military training for girls and women, and, if so, does that reflect Government's policy?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No, Sir. My attention has not been drawn to it yet.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that a large number of girl and women students are anxious to take the benefit of this training but are denied this benefit because they happen to belong to educational institutions under private management?

Major-General Himatsinhji: We realise the fact that a large number of girls wish to take advantage of this training, but we wish to see whether this scheme proves successful or not before we decide on further extension.

DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

*1943. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Engineers sent by the Damodar Valley Corporation for training abroad;

(b) when their training will be completed; and

(c) by what time the Indian Engineers will be in a position to run the

project themselves without foreign technical aid?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Fifteen engineers have so far been sent abroad for training or on deputation—eleven to U.S.A., three to Italy and one to Switzerland.

(b) Eleven have already returned, and one more is likely to return shortly. The others are expected to complete their training in November, 1951.

(c) No definite period can be mentioned. Foreign Technical experts are on a three-year contract and their contracts will not be renewed if it is found that the Project can be run without their aid.

Shri Barman: May I know whether these recruits were taken from among those fresh from the colleges or from among those who have had some experience?

Shri Sri Prakasa: From both. We invite applications both from those who are in our service already and those who are not.

Shri Barman: Is the sending of further batches for the same purpose under immediate contemplation?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I could not say that because I have had no communication from the Damodar Valley Corporation on the subject.

Shri Sidhva: For what kind of engineering training have these persons been sent to foreign countries?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The engineers whom we have sent so far to the U.S.A., were sent for intensive training in thermal power stations.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the Engineers' Association has made a representation to the Government saying that there are sufficient numbers of qualified engineers available for the purpose, and, if so, what steps have Government taken to employ them rather than send new recruits for training abroad?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The question relates to the Damodar Valley Corporation and I shall have a copy of the hon. Member's question sent to them.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that some of the Indian engineers who are found very much qualified for this project are disqualified on grounds of age?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I should not think so, Sir, so far as this question goes because it relates to young trainees who can scarcely be overaged.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Do I take it that the Government have sent people for training only for thermal power and not for hydel?

Shri Sri Prakasa: So far we have sent out our engineers for special training in thermal power.

Shri Jnani Ram: Are these recruits asked to execute an agreement for working permanently in the Corporation?

Shri Sri Prakasa: They are employees of the Corporation.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the number of foreign engineers serving in the Corporation at present?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Six, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Damodar Valley Corporation is under any contractual obligation to employ these engineers even if they are not found up to the mark after training?

Shri Sri Prakasa: These trainees are sent abroad under definite conditions and I do not think that the situation to which my hon. friend refers can arise.

PETROLEUM

***1944. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of petroleum produced in India per annum; and

(b) the attempts made in 1950 for the exploration of petroleum?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The annual production of Crude Petroleum in India during the last 3 years was:

1948—65,359,445 gallons.

1949—66,045,612 gallons.

1950—65,217,360 gallons.

(b) The Geological Survey of India conducted investigations for location of oil during 1950 in the Punjab, Cutch and the Andamans.

Work in this connection was also done by a private company which has been granted an exploratory licence.

Shri Barman: What are the results of the attempts made by the Geological Survey Department to explore oil in the Punjab?

Shri Sri Prakasa: In the Punjab the Geological Survey of India carried out some investigation and a report on the completion of a detailed survey of the Jwalamukhi area and extension of regional surveys round about it, has been received.

Shri Barman: Has there been any attempt made by the hon. Minister's Department to get oil out of coal?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Luckily, Sir, the question does not relate to getting oil out of sand anyway I fear I am not in a position to give any satisfactory reply to the hon. Member.

Shri Barman: Does the hon. Minister mean to say thereby that no research is being carried out to find oil from coal?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I fear I have no information on the subject at hand but I shall enquire if oil can be found out of coal or coal out of oil.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: I wanted to know from the hon. Minister whether the private company to which he referred is an Indian company or some foreign company.

Shri Sri Prakasa: This company is the Assam Oil Company and is situated in Digboi in Assam.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the total value of petroleum produced in 1950?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I have given the quantity obtained, but I could not say straight off its value in money.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: What is the total quantity of petroleum imported into the country and what are the names of the countries from which it is imported?

Mr. Speaker: That has been answered several times.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि राजस्थान के किसी हिस्से में ऐसी सर्वे हुई है ?

[Shri Bhatt: Is the hon. Minister aware of any such survey done in any part of Rajasthan?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : जी नहीं, जहां तक मुझे मालूम है अभी तक राजस्थान में कोई अनुसन्धान नहीं हुआ है ।

[Shri Sri Prakasa: No Sir. So far as I know, no such investigation has been done in Rajasthan.]

ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS

***1945. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a very large number of ancient manuscripts, chiefly in Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit, of considerable historic, educational and cultural value, are preserved or stored in various public and private libraries, colleges, universities and other educational institutions scattered all over the country; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have taken or propose to take suitable and active steps for their acquisition or preservation and for their cataloguing, classification, indexing etc.?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As these manuscripts are already preserved in the libraries and educational institutions where they are in use, the question of their further acquisition or preservation does not arise. Many of these collections have also been catalogued. Attention of the hon. Member is invited to *New Catalogus Catalogum* published by the Madras University.

Shri Raj Kunwar: What is the amount spent by Government so far on this work and are Government satisfied that the amount spent has been adequate for this purpose?

Shri A. P. Jain: I am not in a position to give the amount that has been spent, but further efforts are being made to produce comprehensive catalogues of these books.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी बतलायेंगे कि राजाओं के पास जो इस प्रकार की हस्तप्रतियां हैं वह सरकार ने हासिल की हैं ?

[Shri Bhatt: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Government have acquired such manuscripts which were with the Princes?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जो राज्य की होंगी वह तो जरूर हासिल होंगी और जो उनको निजी हैं उनके हासिल करने का सवाल ही नहीं उठता ।

[Shri A. P. Jain: If they belong to the State, they will certainly be acquired, but the question of acquisition of those which are their own does not arise.]

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether any specific efforts have been made by Government to procure such manuscripts in Pali and Prakrit from private sources as part of a scheme?

Shri A. P. Jain: Many of these manuscripts are with private institutions—educational and otherwise—and they are being properly preserved.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the hon. Minister can tell me even the numbers of the manuscripts which have been seen or located by the Ministry of Education in all the three languages mentioned in the Question?

Shri A. P. Jain: Government have not so far prepared a comprehensive list.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि वेस्ट पाकिस्तान की लायब्रेरियों से पार्टीशन के बाद गवर्नमेंट को कुछ मैनुस्क्रिप्ट प्राप्त हुई हैं ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Government have received some manuscripts from the libraries of West Pakistan after partition?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इस बात की चर्चा तो हुई, लेकिन कितनी मिलीं और कितनी नहीं मिलीं, यह मैं नहीं बतला सकता ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** This question was taken up, but I cannot say how many have been obtained.]

FLOOD CONTROL CONFERENCE

*1946. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a regional conference under the auspices of the E.C.A.F.E. Flood Control Bureau was held in New Delhi in early January 1951;

(b) if so, how many countries participated in it;

(c) how many international organizations were represented;

(d) what were the items of discussion; and

(e) what were the recommendations made?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 14.

(c) to (e). A list showing the International organisations which participated in the discussions, the agenda of the conference indicating the subjects discussed and of the recommendations made by the conference are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 15.]

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What arrangements have been suggested in the Conference for joint study and investigation and exchange of technical knowledge as regards flood control matters?

Shri Sri Prakasa: If the hon. Member will kindly study the statement which I have laid on the Table of the House incorporating the recommendations made, perhaps he would be able to get an answer to his question.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि इन कान्फ्रेन्सों में ऐसी कोई तजवीज़ सामने आई है, जिस पर कि फौरी अमल किया जा सके, जैसे मसलन् पंजाब में बाढ़ आई ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any such scheme came up for consideration in these Conferences which could be brought into immediate implementation *e.g.* the problem of Punjab when it was in the grip of floods?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : मुझे अफ़सोस है कि मैं ने सारे विवरण को तो अभी तक पढ़ा नहीं है लेकिन जिस मामले को माननीय मेम्बर यहां पेश कर रहे हैं, उस पर बहस ज़रूर हुई थी ।

[**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I am sorry, I have not yet gone through the whole statement but the problem referred to by the hon. Member was certainly discussed there.]

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the dispute between India and Pakistan regarding canal waters was discussed in this Conference or in any other Conference later on?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I fear that it was beyond the purview of this Conference.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Did this Conference discuss any plan to prevent flood control in this country and if so how long will it take to give effect to that plan?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The whole matter was generally discussed, but I could not inform the House as regards the decisions reached.

Shri Sidhva: What about my Question, Sir? It is No. 1947.

Mr. Speaker: It has been transferred to the 14th March.

Shri Sidhva: It means, Sir, that my question would get a lower place on that day's Question List and I will be deprived of an oral answer. It is not fair to me.

Mr. Speaker: Was this transfer done without the consent of the hon. Member?

Shri Sidhva: Yes, Sir. I did not know anything about it.

Mr. Speaker: Questions relating to Information and Broadcasting have been fixed for the 14th. That is why the hon. Member's question which relates to Information and Broadcasting may have been transferred to that date.

Shri Sidhva: The point is this, Sir. When a question has been admitted and the hon. Minister concerned also agrees to the date and when the question is published in the Question List, it is not fair to the hon. Member concerned that because the hon. Minister's convenience does not suit him, the hon. Member should be deprived of oral answer.

Mr. Speaker: Whose convenience?

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister's convenience. The hon. Minister is not here; that is why it has been postponed.

Mr. Speaker: If that is so, when the hon. Member said the hon. Minister had 'agreed' he was not correct. I won't presume agreement.

Shri Sidhva: I want your protection, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I understand the difficulty, but the question will go to the day on which the hon. Minister will be present.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order. May I ask whether generally speaking any change in the Question List—whether it be transfer or cancellation—ought not to be communicated to the hon. Member concerned before the appointed day?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think I need enter into that argument now. Question No. 1948.

SUSPENSION OF TAXES ON TABACCO

*1948. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the States to whom the Union Government have to pay compensation for their suspension of provincial taxes upon tobacco; and

(b) the amounts paid to each of the States during the year 1950-51?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh and Coorg.

		Rs.
(b)	Bombay	54,00,000.
	Madras	56,00,000.
	Madhya Pradesh	1,50,000.
	Coorg	4,600.
	Total	1,11,54,600.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the promulgation of the new Constitution has produced any change in regard to the provincial taxation on tobacco and collection of excise duties on tobacco by the Central Government?

Shri Tyagi: Excise duty is being realised as it was before. Except that the rates were changed, no other change has been effected.

Dr. M. M. Das: By Entry No. 84 of the Union List, the levy and collection of excise duties falls under the jurisdiction of the Union Government and the States have no right to take a share of the revenue. That is why I am putting this question.

Shri Tyagi: In fact, when the excise duty on tobacco came into force for the first time in April 1942, the then Government of India had an agreement with the various Provincial Governments which were realising sales tax on tobacco. The Provincial Governments were asked to give up their sales tax and in compensation for that the Government of India agreed to give them various sums. For Bombay, they agreed to pay Rs. 29 lakhs; for Madras Rs. 22 lakhs, and so on. But after the partition these States protested against the original sums. They wanted more sums to be paid. It was agreed that some more sum should be paid and the latest figures are as I have read out: Rs. 54 lakhs for Bombay and Rs. 56 lakhs for Madras. I might add that this matter has ultimately to be referred to the Finance Commission, which I promise to do. According to the Constitution, it is for Parliament to lay down the principles on which excise duties are to be levied and so long as Parliament does not pass such legislation the matter has to remain pending.

Dr. M. M. Das: When the excise duty or sales tax on tobacco was

imposed by the States, was it at a flat rate or was the taxation according to the special methods of processing tobacco or the different purposes for which tobacco was being used?

Shri Tyagi: It was not an excise duty. It was a tax on sale and licences for vendors etc. By these methods they were realising some taxes on tobacco.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know, Sir, the revenue realised by the Central Government after payment of compensation to the different States during the current year?

Shri Tyagi: As I have said, the principle and proportion of payment to the States have ultimately to be decided by the Financial Commission, to which I shall refer the matter.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Have other State Governments where sales tax is levied on tobacco applied for compensatory payment as in the case of Madras, Bombay and Coorg?

Shri Tyagi: I have no information about it: if the hon. Member is anxious, I shall find it out and let him know.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that the amounts mentioned have already been agreed to by this House in supplementary demands?

Shri Tyagi: According to article 272 of the Constitution, Parliament is empowered to pay out of the Consolidated Fund of India to the States to which the law imposing the duty extends sums equivalent to the whole or any part of the net proceeds of that duty, and those sums shall be distributed among those States in accordance with such principles of distribution as may be formulated by such law.

So, Parliament itself by law has to lay down as to how and on what principles the whole or part of that amount will have to be distributed among the various States.

Dr. M. M. Das: I wanted to know in my last supplementary question what was the revenue realised by the Central Government after paying the States their due share?

Shri Tyagi: No part of the revenue derived out of the Union excise duty as such is shared by the Centre with the States.

Dr. M. M. Das: The hon. Minister himself admitted that certain amounts were paid to Madras and Bombay.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps he spoke of allotment and not sharing.

Shri Tyagi: As I have said the basis has yet to be agreed to by Parliament.

Geological Survey of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

*1949. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether a thorough geological survey of Andaman and the Nicobar Islands has been made?

(b) If not, do Government propose to undertake the work in the near future?

(c) Is it a fact that second class coal has been found in the Andamans and mud smelling showing the presence of mineral oils has also been found?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). No Sir; but the Islands have been visited several times by officers of the Geological Survey of India, and a general idea of the geology of the Islands has been obtained. An officer of the Geological Survey of India carried out a reconnaissance of certain areas in the Islands especially those in which oil might be found on the basis of previous work during 1949-50, and another officer is at present there conducting further geological investigations.

(c) Yes, Sir. Lignite has been noticed in two or three places, and traces of oil in mud have also been noticed in some places. The reports received indicate that the Lignite is always limited in quantity and is of a very poor quality, and the occurrences of oil do not appear to be promising enough to work.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know, Sir, whether any team of surveyors was sent to the Andamans during last October for carrying out geological survey?

Shri Sri Prakasa: No, Sir.

Central Advisory Board of Education

*1950. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state how many times the Central Advisory Board of Education met in 1950?

(b) What were the subjects of deliberation of this Board?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Central Advisory Board of Education met twice during 1950.

(b) A copy of the proceedings of the two meetings—16th and 17th (Special)

meetings—has been placed in the Parliament Library for the use of the Members

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, the composition and the principal functions of this Board of Education?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as the composition is concerned, I will refer the hon. Member to the Gazette in which the names of members were published. The functions of the Board are to advise the Education Ministry on practically all matters concerned with the Ministry. The matters considered at the 16th meeting will give an idea of the functions of the Board. The Board considered the question of preparation of text-books, productive aspects of basic education, central and provincial councils for the welfare of handicapped children, compulsory physical work and so on.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know, Sir, whether the question of giving free and compulsory education in the case of children up to 14 years has been discussed by this Board in terms of the provisions of our Constitution and if so what is their decision?

Shri A. P. Jain: From the papers before me I find that it was not discussed at the 16th and 17th meetings. It may have been discussed at other meetings—I am not in a position to say.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether at the recent Conference held at Trivandrum any scheme was formulated regarding compulsory adult education in any part of India?

Shri A. P. Jain: Two meetings, as I said, were held, one in Cuttak and another in Delhi in 1950 The proceedings of the Trivandrum Conference are not before me.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that the question of adult education was discussed in general terms at various meetings. When is a decision going to be taken with regard to that?

Shri A. P. Jain: I am not in a position to state when a decision is going to be taken.

Military Barracks at Makromia in Saugor

*1951. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the military barracks at Makromia, in Saugor in Madhya Pradesh, which houses the University of Saugor at present, was sold by Government to the Government of Madhya Pradesh without any reference to the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Sir Hari Singh Gour?

(b) What is the amount at which the barracks were sold?

(c) Are Government aware that the ex-Commander-in-Chief of India, Sir Claude Auchinleck had assured Sir Hari Singh Gour a free gift of the land and barracks for the University and representations have been made by the University for refund of the sale price?

(d) If so, do Government propose to refund the amount for other development purposes of the University and when?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The transfer of the property was negotiated between the Central and State (Provincial) Governments. It is not known whether the matter was referred to Sir Hari Singh Gour by the State Government or not.

(b) Rs. 2,50,000.

(c) (i) Government are not aware of any such assurance.

(ii) Two representations dated the 2nd December 1949 and the 8th December 1949 were received from Sir Hari Singh Gour.

(d) Government do not see any reason to refund the amount or to make an equivalent grant. The project was valued at Rs. 7·25 lakhs and the transaction therefore already represents a considerable concession.

Shri R. L. Malviya: What action has been taken on the representation of Sir Hari Singh Gour in the matter?

Major-General Himatsinhji: On the 22nd December 1949 the hon. the Defence Minister replied to Sir Hari Singh Gour that there was no trace of any reference to the question of free transfer of the property and therefore it was difficult to accept the contention that the amount of Rs. 2½ lakhs was realised erroneously. The transfer of the property at Rs. 2½ lakhs represented a considerable concession. It was also stated that it was not possible for the Government of India to agree to take back these buildings which had been permanently transferred and, if these were not required by the University, their disposal would be a matter entirely for them to decide.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Allegations against Food Minister, *re* Tubewell Project in Bombay

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report of the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative

Assembly, which has appeared in the *Free Press Journal* of the 17th February 1951, in which a reference has been made to the Union Food Minister in connection with a tubewell project in Bombay State?

(b) Is there any truth in the insinuation conveyed by the question put by a Member of the Bombay Legislative Assembly that the Union Food Minister had anything to do in the matter of giving that contract to the National Tubewell Limited, or which one of the Directors is the son-in-law of the Food Minister?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India were or are in no way connected with this matter which was the sole responsibility of the Government of Bombay. The Government of India came in only on the question of a loan to the Government of Bombay for financing this project and, as such, the Government had a general responsibility for seeing that the project was a sound one and the terms of the contract satisfactory. In this connection a reference was made to the Central Ministry of Food and Agriculture on this subject. The Food Minister declined to deal with this matter as one of the promoters of the company which was formed and which the Bombay Government was selecting, was his son-in-law. He directed that the papers should be put up before me for disposal. I came to the conclusion that the sole question to be considered was whether the proposed company was competent to carry out the work and the fact that a member of it was a relative or son-in-law of the Food Minister had no relevance in the circumstances, provided care was taken to examine the competence of the firm and the contract fully. The Government of Bombay were in the best position to do so.

On the Bombay Government applying for a loan to the Government of India, the economics of the project were examined by the Food and Agriculture Ministry and the Finance Ministry and these being found satisfactory, a loan was sanctioned. The Minister for Food and Agriculture was in no way concerned with this matter.

The Bombay Government have been good enough to send me full particulars. From this it appears that the choice for this kind of work was very limited and lay between a foreign company and the company to which the contract was given, which was the only organised Indian company. After full investigation they came to the conclusion they did.

The Home Minister of the Bombay Government made a full statement in the Bombay Legislative Assembly on this subject. Later, the Bombay Government decided to cancel the contract and to allow all firms concerned to apply afresh.

Shri Kamath: At the time this loan was sanctioned to the Bombay Government was it not made a condition, and was not this condition made clear to the Bombay Government that tenders should be invited?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just stated in answer to the question that at the time there were only two Companies who could possibly do the work and the two Companies were before the Bombay Government. They had both made proposals and the Bombay Government selected between the two. I do not know exactly of the correspondence that took place between our Finance Ministry and the Bombay Government at the time.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Had the Bombay tubewell company to whom the contract was given any previous experience of this kind of work?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The company itself was a relatively new one but the men concerned with the company I am told had a good deal of experience.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: When the papers were placed before the hon. the Prime Minister was he of the opinion that tenders should be called for or that the contract should be given to this new firm? What was the opinion he expressed?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Normally speaking the matter would not have come up before me at all: it would have been dealt with by the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. It came up before me at the instance of the Food Minister because he said he did not want to do anything with this matter because a relative of his was a member of one of the firms. Thereupon I said, as I have just stated, that the matter should be examined on the merits thoroughly and that the fact that anybody happened to be a relative should not come in the way, this way or that, if on the merits it was a good thing. The question of tenders did not come up before me at all. It was for the Bombay Government to decide and later for our Finance Ministry to check whether the decision was a right one or not.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what was the amount of the loan and if any similar loan was sanctioned to any other State for tubewells?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am afraid I have no information myself, but my colleague the Food Minister tells me that the loan was roughly about Rs. 2 crores and such loans have been sanctioned for several States.

Sardar B. S. Man: What were the reasons for the subsequent cancellation of the contract?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Home Minister of the Bombay Government stated that in view of the fact that some hon. Members of the Bombay Legislative Assembly had felt perturbed about it although he himself was perfectly certain with the decision, nevertheless he was quite prepared to cancel it and ask for tenders afresh.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it not true that the Bombay Government in deference to constructive criticism dropped altogether the plan of giving it to the firm in view of the Bombay Government's reputation for efficiency and integrity?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Thimmappa Gowda: When was this company started?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not give the date, but it is a recent company.

Shri Sondhi: What was the security offered to the Government for this loan?

Mr. Speaker: That is for the Bombay Government.

Shri Sondhi: But the Government of India must know what is the security for the loan being advanced?

Mr. Speaker: He means the security from the company.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: From the company? Not from the Bombay Government?

Shri Sondhi: Security from the company to the Bombay Government.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As far as we are concerned we deal with the Bombay Government—we do not deal with the company—so that it is the Bombay Government's security to us. But the company offered a bank guarantee.

Dr. Deshmukh: May we take it that this two crore loan will not now be required by the Bombay Government and that it is a saving to us?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The loan has been sanctioned and the work is going to be done. The only question that now arises, which has been reopened, is which particular firm or company should carry out this work. This has been reopened and tenders have been invited.

Mr. Speaker: Let us proceed to the further business on hand. We are entering into details, about the transactions by the Bombay Government with which we are not concerned here.

Shri Kamath: May I request you as the guardian of the rights of Members of this House to kindly direct your Secretariat to see that where a change is made in the Question List, except where the Member himself withdraws the question, that the Member should be intimated about it: this is not the first instance but the second or third in this session.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I was not informed. Even about my short notice question I do not know. I was not informed about it.

Mr. Speaker: Is it disallowed or allowed ?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I do not know.

Mr. Speaker: That is a different matter. He gets intimation of its disallowance or allowance. But I shall have to enquire about this. Presumably, if hon. Members choose for their question a specific date which is not allotted to that Ministry for answering, sometimes through mistake a question occurs in the List on that day. But if that is not the day allotted for the Ministry I think it should not reasonably be insisted that he should have an answer on that day. Now, the only thing in point of argument from the hon. Member Mr. Sidhva is that this particular question found a place in the printed list. That means the mistake was not detected when it was put to print and now, when the mistake is detected, it is corrected. I do not see what grievance there can be over that. Hon. Members are in the beginning provided with a list of dates showing the Ministries in respect of which questions would be put on those dates. Here, this day is obviously not a day fixed for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Shri Sidhva: If you go through the statement that has been supplied by your office you will find that the Ministries mentioned for the 7th March are Defence, Education, Finance, Health, Home Affairs, Information and Broadcasting.

Mr. Speaker: He may see the Secretary and have the explanation, and if he is dissatisfied I will look into the matter. But I may say that such mistakes are not of special significance to be complained of.

Shri Sidhva: It was not my mistake.

Mr. Speaker: Whosoever's mistake it is, it is human. The office is as capable of making mistakes as hon. Members. It is not that one is infallible and the other is not. That is not the point.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Civic Rights to Displaced Persons

*1952. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is proposed to enact a special Act giving civic rights to displaced persons from East Pakistan, who came here after the passing of the Constitution Act?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): It is proposed to make special provision in the Indian Citizenship Law to enable these displaced persons to acquire Indian Citizenship.

Financial Integration of States

*1953. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total debits and total credits to each of the Part 'B' States at the dates when the integration took place; and

(b) what is the total expenditure on this account *i.e.*, expenditure on items transferred to the Centre in respect of these states?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the outstanding assets and liabilities of the Part B States as on the date of the federal financial integration. The figures are not yet ready.

(b) A separate account is not kept of the expenditure incurred in Part B States on Central subjects but at the time the budget for 1950-51 was framed it was estimated that this expenditure will be of the order of Rs. 25 crores.

मंत्रियों का यात्रा व्यय

*१९५४. **श्री जांगड़े :** गृह कार्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) जब भारत सरकार के मंत्री दिल्ली के बाहर ऐसी सभाओं में भाग लेने के लिए जाते हैं जिनका सरकारी कार्य से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं होता तो क्या उनका यात्रा व्यय सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जाता है; तथा

(बी) यदि हां, तो १९५०-५१ में इस प्रकार कुल कितना रुपया व्यय किया गया ?

Travelling Expenses of Ministers

[*1954. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the travelling expenses of the Ministers of the Government of India are borne by Government when they go out to attend meetings not connected with Government business outside Delhi; and

(b) if so, what was the amount thus spent in the year 1950-51?]

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The criterion adopted is public interest—which is somewhat wider in connotation than "Government Business". On the analogy of the Rules applicable to Government servants, Ministers are entitled to travelling allowance when they undertake journeys which are in the public interests; these do not, of course, include journeys undertaken solely for personal reasons or exclusively for party purposes.

(b) It is not possible to answer this question without a fresh analysis of an impracticable kind.

रिज़र्व बैंक द्वारा कृषि कार्य के निमित्त दिया गया ऋण

*१९५५ **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) भारत के रिज़र्व बैंक द्वारा गत वर्ष कृषि कार्य के निमित्त कितने रुपये का ऋण दिया गया ;

(बी) भारत के रिज़र्व बैंक द्वारा गत वर्ष कृषि कार्य के निमित्त मध्य भारत के सहकारी बैंकों को कितने रुपये का ऋण दिया गया; तथा

(सी) क्या १९५१-५२ में उक्त राशि में वृद्धि करने का कोई विचार है ?

Loans by Reserve Bank for Agricultural Purposes

[*1955. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount lent by the Reserve Bank of India last year for agricultural purposes;

(b) the amount lent by the Reserve Bank of India to the Co-operative Banks of Madhya Bharat in the year 1950-51 for agricultural purposes; and

(c) whether it is proposed to increase this amount in the year 1951-52?]

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) In the calendar year 1950, the Reserve Bank of India gave advances to Co-operative Banks for agricultural purposes to the extent of Rs. 4·6 crores approximately.

(b) Under the Reserve Bank of India Act as it stands at present, the Bank's field of operation does not extend to Part 'B' States.

(c) As far as Government are aware, the Reserve Bank of India does not earmark any specific funds, or set any specific ceiling for the grant of loans for agricultural purposes. I have no doubt that the Reserve Bank will meet all reasonable requirements.

Public Limited Concerns

*1957. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what part of the capital allowed to be raised by Public Limited concerns during 1950-51, was subscribed for and what part of the subscribed capital was paid up in full?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Reports hitherto received show that out of the total capital of Rs. 64·93 crores authorized to be issued by Public Limited Companies during 1950, Rs. 5·50 crores was subscribed and Rs. 4·97 crores paid up during that period.

Visit of Mr. David Lilienthal

*1958. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. David Lilienthal is to visit India shortly to study problems connected with India's rivers?

(b) if so, whether his visit is in response to the invitation of Government;

(c) what are the specific issues on which his expert advice will be sought; and

(d) what are the places earmarked for his visit?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) to (d). I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given on the 23th February 1951 to parts (b), (c) and (d) of unstarred Question No. 110, by Shri Sidhva. I would add that Mr. Lilienthal came on a private visit to India; he arrived at Delhi on February 15, 1951 and left for Japan from Calcutta on March 1st. The Government of India extended facilities for his visits to the Bhakra Nangal Project, the Nilokheri Township and the Central Agricultural Farm at Karnal, in the Punjab (India); the National Physical Laboratory and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in Delhi; Calcutta University and the Ceramic and Glass Research Institute, in Calcutta; the Tata Iron and Steel Works and the National Metallurgical Laboratory, at Jamshedpur; and the Hirakud Dam Project in Orissa.

Flying Accident

*1959. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Squadron Leader died near Palam on the 7th February 1951, in a flying accident;

(b) what are the circumstances under which this accident took place; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to grant maintenance to the bereaved family?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes.

(b) The pilot was authorised to carry out a solo aerobatics sortie in a Vampire aircraft. After climbing to approximately 4,000 feet he executed a slow roll to the port Before the final completion of the roll, the aircraft flicked and commenced spinning down till it hit the ground. The aircraft caught fire immediately on impact and the pilot was killed instantaneously.

(c) Yes. Action has already been initiated for the grant of family pension to the widow and the child of the officer. In the meantime a sum of Rs. 500 has been paid to the widow as immediate relief.

Fire Arms (Manufacture)

*1960. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether there are any factories manufacturing fire arms and ammunition and run by private enterprise in the country;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the number of

such factories and the situation thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to encourage private enterprise in that direction?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Arms and ammunition for military purposes are not manufactured by private manufacturers. The question arises only in the case of arms and ammunition for civilian licencees. The information asked for is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. Reports we have received so far indicate that the manufacture is of small proportions and confined largely to muzzie loaders and that most of the licencees do only repair work.

(c) The policy of Government continues to be what was announced in 1948, *viz.*, that in the main the manufacture of firearms should be only on behalf of the State.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

***1961. Shri Barrow:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a University Grants Committee is to be set up, as recommended by the University Education Commission;

(b) if so, the date from which the Committee will function;

(c) the names of the members of the Commission; and

(d) the total sum for the first year, that will be required to implement this recommendation?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

***1962. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of loan applications pending before the Rehabilitation Finance Administration on the 1st March 1951 and the number of applications so pending, which relate to the States of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Bombay, West Bengal, Assam and Rajasthan separately;

(b) the total number of applications disposed of upto the 1st March 1951, with respect to the States mentioned in part (a) above and the number of applications disposed of in the months of January and February 1951 separately and the total amount granted as loan upto 1st March 1951 with the total sum disbursed upto that date;

(c) the dates of the oldest and the latest applications awaiting disposal;

(d) the date on which the first application was disposed of by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration; and

(e) the total monthly expense of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration under different heads?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 16.]

The information is available only upto the 1st February 1951.

(c) The oldest application awaiting disposal as on the 1st February 1951 is dated the 18th August 1948 and the latest one is dated the 25th January 1951.

(d) 21st July, 1948.

(e) A statement showing the average monthly expenses during 1950 is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 17.]

RAILWAY WORK BETWEEN KHADAKVASLA MILITARY ACADEMY AND KIRKEE

***1963. Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the approximate date for starting the proposed Railway Construction work between Khadakvasla Military Academy and Kirkee?

(b) Are the projects for the same completed?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). No Railway-line between Khadakvasla Military Academy and Kirkee is proposed to be constructed.

COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

***1964. Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about fifty Members of Parliament are serving on various commissions and committees and are receiving periodical payments called allowances or salaries for their work?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the Table of the House, their names and the periodical allowances or salaries received by them?

(c) Are these Members drawing also allowances for attending Parliament Sessions?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 18.]

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

उत्तर प्रदेश में खनिज पदार्थों का पर्यालोकन

*१९६५. श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य : क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) उत्तर प्रदेश के कुमाय डिवीज़न के उन स्थानों के नाम, जहां १९४९-५० में खनिज पदार्थों का पर्यालोकन किया गया था;

(बी) उन खनिज पदार्थों के नाम जिन का अब तक वहां पता लगाया जा चुका है; तथा

(सी) इन खनिज पदार्थों का उपयोग करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या पग उठाया है ?

MINERAL SURVEY IN U.P.

[***1965. Shri B. S. Arya:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those places in Kumaon Division in Uttar Pradesh where a mineral survey was done in 1949-50;

(b) the names of minerals that have been discovered there so far; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to utilize these minerals?]

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Mineral surveys in Dwarahat and Greechhina in Almora district in Kumaon Division were carried out in 1949-50.

(b) (i) Iron ore in Dwarahat;

(ii) magnesite in Greechhina.

(c) Exploitation of mineral deposits is the concern of State Governments. Reports received show that the Dwarahat iron ore deposit did not prove promising and the magnesite deposit at Greechhina is too far from roads and railheads to admit of economic exploitation at present.

PANDIT COMMITTEE

***1966. Shri Hathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether the report of the Pandit Committee on indigenous systems of medicines has been received by Government?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what action have Government taken to implement its recommendations?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee are under examination. Copies of the Report are available in the Library of the House.

FEDERAL FINANCIAL INTEGRATION OF HYDERABAD

***1967. Shri K. Vaidya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the remarks made in the Report of the Economy Committee presided over by Shri A. D. Gorwala, regarding the calculation of Federal revenues and expenditure of Hyderabad by the Indian States Finance Inquiry Committee?

(b) If so, have the Government of India revised the figures of income and expenditure in the light of those remarks?

(c) If so, what are the figures of federal revenues and expenditure of the State of Hyderabad arrived at?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to starred question No. 1689 by the hon. Minister of States on the 23rd February 1951.

(c) For purposes of determining the revenue gap under the Financial Integration Agreement with the State receipts under federal heads have been taken at Rs. 495 lakhs and expenditure under federal heads at Rs. 360 lakhs, both in O.S. currency, in consultation with the State Government.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

***1968. Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the staff attached to the Department of Economic Affairs and expenditure incurred in 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) what are its functions?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The staff attached to the Department of Economic Affairs consists of 31 Gazetted officers and 273 non-gazetted officers and the expenditure incurred during 1950-51 up to the end of December 1950 is about Rs.

8,25,500. Separate figures of expenditure for the earlier period are not available as the Department was created with effect from the 1st November 1949, consequent on the reorganisation of the Ministry of Finance and the provision was made for the Ministry as a whole.

(b) The Department of Economic Affairs deals with all work relating to external and internal finance including exchange control, the preparation of the Central budget public Debt, Small Savings, coinage, Currency, Banking, Insurance and Company Law, Control of Capital Issues and the administration of the Mints and Security Press. The department also deals with matters relating to the Industrial Finance Corporation, the Rehabilitation Finance Administration, the Reserve Bank of India and the Indian Audit Department.

RECRUITMENT AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

121. Babu Gopinath Singh: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules relating to the recruitment and conditions of service for Assistants, Superintendents and Assistant Secretaries were framed under the Government of India Act, 1935 and if so, whether Government propose to place a copy of these rules on the Table of the House; and

(b) whether Government have taken steps to frame service Rules under article 309 of the Constitution?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) No rules formally purporting to have been framed under the Government of India Act, 1935, were issued, but the instructions issued from time to time were consolidated in the Government of India, Ministerial Establishment (Recruitment, Promotion and Seniority) Rules, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House. These Rules have now become obsolete in view of the Reorganisation of the Central Secretariat Service, which is now in progress. A copy of the Central Secretariat Service (Reorganisation and Reinforcement) Scheme is also available in the Library of the House.

(b) Under Article 313 of the Constitution all the laws in force (including statutory rules) before the commencement of the Constitution and applicable to any public service continue in force so far as consistent with the provisions of the Constitution. Steps are being taken to examine and revise the old rules so as to remove all inconsistencies with the new Constitution, and to bring them into line with the changed circumstances. As soon as this work is completed, a body of revised rules will be issued under Article 309 of the Constitution.

TAXATION OF FOREIGN INCOME

122. Shri Himatsingka: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount of revenue derived from the taxation of foreign income of Indians residing in India either for 1948-49 or for 1949-50 whichever is readily available?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): It is not possible to give separately the amount of tax on foreign income of only Indians residing in India, but taking both Indians and non-Indians residing in India, the amounts of tax on the foreign incomes of such persons during the financial years 1948-49 and 1949-50 were Rs. 287 lakhs and Rs. 373 lakhs respectively.

IMPORT OF GOLD

123. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total quantity and value of gold imported into India during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): The information is given in the Sea-Borne Trade Accounts of India, and is as follows:

	Quantity (in Ounces)	Value
1948-49.	345	Rs. 1,20,992
1949-50.	716	Rs. 2,18,220
1950-51. (April to December)	2,300	Rs. 6,84,031

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 8th March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PROTECTION TO INDUSTRIES

***1969. Prof S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Industries whose cases for protection or assistance are pending with the Tariff Board; and

(b) how many such cases were disposed of during the year 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). I lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the requisite information. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 19].

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, in how many cases action was taken and fiscal or non-fiscal assistance given?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid I have not got that information on hand. If the hon. Member wishes, I shall supply him that information.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, the time-lag that ensued between the recommendations of the Tariff Board and the action taken by Government in these cases?

Shri Karmarkar: The time-lag is very little: nothing to complain of.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What steps have been taken by Government for the reconstitution of the Tariff Board as recommended by the Fiscal Commission?

Shri Karmarkar: I may tell my hon. friend that a Bill is under consideration and it will be placed before the House during this session to implement the recommendations of the Fiscal Commission.

Shri S. N. Das: How many fresh applications for protection were received during the year 1950?

Shri Karmarkar: I can supply that information to my hon. friend.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: In how many cases were costs of production determined by the Tariff Board?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall require notice of that question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the conditions in which such assistance or protection is granted?

Shri Karmarkar: I suppose it is a matter of common knowledge: I would not like to take up the time of the House on that.

TRADE WITH TIBET AND NEPAL

***1970. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade with Tibet and Nepal has suffered during recent months; and

(b) if so, in what respect?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I take it that there has been no downward trend in trade with these two countries?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. If my hon. friend wishes, I shall give him detailed figures later on: it is a long table.

Prof S. N. Mishra: What was the volume of trade during last year with these two countries?

Shri Karmarkar: Estimated value in respect of Indo-Nepalese trade November-December 1948-49: Imports into India: Rs. 2,92,92,000. Exports from India Rs. 3,25,50,000. In regard to 1949-50 I shall supply the figures to the hon. Member.

Shri Kamath: Have the people of Himachal Pradesh and the other adjoining Himalayan border regions recently made a representation to Government that in view of developments in Tibet, measures should be taken by Government to safeguard the trade between India and Tibet?

Shri Karmarkar: Not that I am aware of.

Shri Sondhi: How is it that the hon. Minister has given the figures for 1948-49 as 'estimated'. They must be the actual figures.

Shri Karmarkar: They are actual.

RATIFICATION OF HAVANA CHARTER

*1971. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ratify the Havana Charter; and

(b) if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Fiscal Commission which was asked to advise on the question of ratification of the Havana Charter by the Government of India, has recommended (with one dissenting minute) that Government may ratify it after other countries of major economic importance, including the United States and United Kingdom, have ratified it. While Government have not yet come to a final decision on the Fiscal Commission's recommendation, the United States' Government have, announced their decision to postpone the ratification of the Charter and to strengthen the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade instead. This recent development has created a new situation which is being examined.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government propose to accept the protocol adopted at the Torquay Conference?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How many trade organisations in the country supported or opposed the ratification?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice in respect of detailed number of trade organisations. But our information is that trade organisations in general have supported that.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know with regard to this Agreement and the Havana Charter, whether there is any common policy between the United Kingdom, United States of America and India?

Shri Karmarkar: I am afraid my hon. friend is mixing up two things. One is the Havana Charter. That is a Charter about which there was general consensus. The whole discussion on that Charter represented the best possible common agreement as among the countries which participated in it.

The other thing is what we call General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. It is a sort of bilateral agreement developing into a multi-lateral agreement. In respect of that, as my hon. friend will easily appreciate, there can be nothing that is part of that agreement which denotes a difference of opinion.

COTTON EXPORT

*1972. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the quota fixed for export of cotton from India to foreign countries for the year 1951?

(b) Is there any limit of maximum quantity for granting licence?

(c) How many applications for licence have so far been received?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 1,80,000 bales so far.

(b) Yes.

(c) 285.

Shri Sidhva: May I have a break-up of these 1,80,000 bales into short staple, long staple and medium staple?

Shri Karmarkar: The country-wise quota for my hon. friend's information is as follows:

U. S. and Japan: Bengal *Desi*, 90,000 and 52,000 bales respectively

Assam Comilla for both of them together: 4,500 bales.

United Kingdom: 20,000 bales Bengal *Desi*.

Soft currency countries, other than U. K. 13,000 bales of Bengal *Desi* and 500 bales of Assam Comilla.

Total: 1,80,000 bales.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total requirement of cotton in our country?

Shri Karmarkar: My senior colleague will give that information.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Of these varieties, or, all cotton.

Shri Sidhva: All varieties.

Shri Mahtab: Our requirement is 42,00,000 bales.

Shri Sidhva: While allowing exports, have Government kept in mind that sufficient quantity of cotton will be available for local consumption.

Mr. Speaker: It should be presumed that Government would have examined it.

Shri Sidhva: Not necessarily.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member need not presume that much of ignorance.

Shri Sidhva: It is not a matter of ignorance....

Mr. Speaker: Or indifference. It is no use taking the time of the House on such questions.

Shri Sidhva: Which are the countries to which this cotton will be exported?

Shri Karmarkar: U.S.A., Japan, U.K. and other soft currencies.

Shri Sidhva: What is the quantity of the largest single export permit?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall require notice of that question.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the rate at which this cotton is being sold and what is the rate fixed by Government for internal purchase.

Shri Mahtab: For internal purchase Rs. 650 has been fixed. External purchase rate is much higher than the internal price.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is there any export duty levied?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, there is an export duty.

श्री शिव चरण लाल : क्या यह बात सही है कि हिन्दुस्तान की कुछ मिलें केवल इस वजह से बन्द रहीं, कि उनको रुई काफ़ी नहीं मिली ?

[**Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** Is it a fact that certain Mills in India remained closed simply for the reason that they could not obtain enough cotton?]

Shri Mahtab: That is not a fact.

Mr. Speaker: This point has been dealt with previously.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know how many cotton growers' co-operative societies have been granted export licences?

Shri Karmarkar: I think I shall require notice of that.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Do Government propose to issue export licences to growers' co-operative societies?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, provided other conditions are fulfilled.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether there is any maximum limit in quantity for granting licences?

Shri Mahtab: There is no limit, I suppose.

Shri Karmarkar: If I may give the correct position so that the House may not be misinformed, it is like this. With a view to ensuring that as many exporters as possible may be enabled to take part in the export business in raw cotton, the following limits were fixed for grant of export licences:

(1) 5,000 bales, in the case of 25,000 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton for export to the U.S.A.

(2) 4,000 bales, in the case of 1,50,000 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton announced for export on the 19th January, 1951.

I think that is what my hon. friend wanted.

ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO BURMA

*1973. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the number of Indians who have entered Burma since August, 1950 without permits?

(b) How many of them have been prosecuted by the Burmese Government and how many have since been deported?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) 313 Indians are reported to have entered Burma without immigration permits from 1st August, 1950 to 31st December, 1950.

(b) 349 persons are reported to have been prosecuted by the Burma

128365

Government during the above mentioned period for infringement of Immigration laws including the offence of staying beyond the periods of residence permitted under their Immigration documents.

144 persons are reported to have been deported to India during the year 1950.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India intend to take any steps to check such migration from India to Burma?

Dr. Keskar: There is no emigration from Burma to India.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I was asking from India to Burma.

Dr. Keskar: There is at present, really speaking, no emigration from India to Burma. It is some of the old immigrants who have been staying in Burma for a pretty long period who try through many means to go back. Otherwise there is none.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any restrictions existed on our travel to Burma before August, 1950?

Dr. Keskar: There was no restriction before.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What are the new restrictions which have been imposed on our travel there?

Dr. Keskar: That I will not be able to give offhand. First of all, all Indians who want to go to Burma must be in possession of a passport, but there is an exception in the case of those Indians who have been resident in Burma who can go to Burma with what they call an entry permit.

Shri Kamath: From the reports available, did the Indians who entered Burma without permit during the period under reference belong to the border Provinces of Bengal and Assam or also to other States of India?

Dr. Keskar: There are very few I think from the border Provinces. Mostly they were coming from South India.

EXPORT OF MUSTARD SEEDS

***1974. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity (in tons) of the export of mustard seeds in the year 1950; and

(b) whether Government propose to impose controls on the price, sale and export of mustard seeds?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 86 tons.

(b) The export of mustard seed outside India is generally banned except for small quantities allowed for export against *ad hoc* demands from hard currency countries. At present there is no proposal for the imposition of control on the price and sale of mustard seeds.

Hessian SACKS

***1975. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mills manufacturing *hessian* bags and other jute manufactures, their total production capacity and their annual requirements of raw jute when worked on maximum capacity;

(b) the annual output of *hessian* sacks and other jute manufactures during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the quantity and value of *hessian* sacks and other jute manufactures exported from India to the Dollar and Sterling regions during the above years and the quantity and value of these goods consumed in India;

(d) the quantity and value of raw jute imported into India from Pakistan during the above years;

(e) the total quantity of jute exported by Pakistan to foreign countries through Calcutta and other Indian ports; and

(f) the price of jute manufacture prevailing in India and foreign markets of U.K. and U.S.A. during the above years, and particularly the price of jute manufacture month by month prevailing in the Indian market and the foreign market of U.S.A. and U.K. since the imposition of the export duty of Rs. 1500 per ton since September, 1950 upto date?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (f). I place on the Table of the House six statements furnishing the information asked for. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 20.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it the intention of the Government to review its entire policy of control or decontrol of raw jute and jute exports in view of the recent Indo-Pakistan Agreement?

Shri Mahtab: Government's decision will be announced in a day or two—possibly today or tomorrow.

Shri T. N. Singh: With reference to part (f) of the question may I know by how much the prices in U.K. and America have gone up after the last Tariff Amendment Act recently passed?

Shri Mahtab: It has been given in the statement.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want to know by what proportion the price has gone up. Today's price may be given in the statement, but what has been the rise in prices?

Shri Mahtab: Comparative prices have been given in the statement. For instance in July the U.S.A. price was 15·25 dollars, in October it was 20·75 dollars.

VALUE OF IMPORTED GOODS

***1976. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of capital goods, luxury goods and consumers goods imported into India separately from Sterling and Dollar areas during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950.

(b) the total value of exports from India separately to Sterling and Dollar areas during the above years;

(c) what was the total yardage and value of the import of textile manufactured goods into India during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(d) what portion of the same was imported from hard and soft currency areas?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 21.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what were the main varieties of luxury goods imported and what was the reason to allow their import?

Shri Karmarkar: I think I shall require notice for supplying a detailed list of the luxury goods. And as my hon. friend is aware, during the last eighteen months a definite effort has been made to cut down the import of luxury goods as much as possible.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: My question is what is the reason for allowing the import of any luxury goods at all?

Shri Karmarkar: Because those luxury goods are considered as necessary.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if it is imperative on the Government to buy certain luxury goods from foreign countries if they want to buy other goods?

Shri Karmarkar: It is not at all imperative on the Government. But it is a fact that foreign countries with whom we deal are interested in seeing that some of their consumer goods also come in. For instance we want to get watches from Switzerland, but they are anxious that a little of their consumer goods should also be taken. And when the whole balance is one of advantage we do agree sometimes. And that is one of the reasons why we import luxury goods.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the priorities have been arranged as recommended by the Import Advisory Committee?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, we took into consideration the recommendations of the Import Advisory Council and recently framed our priorities.

Shri S. N. Das: How does the list of imports as arranged by the Government stand today?

Shri Karmarkar: The priorities are just as before. Food comes first; capital goods and raw materials for industries come next; consumer goods come third; and luxury goods come last.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if Government is aware that certain luxury goods come to India even without permits or licences?

Shri Karmarkar: Government have no definite information, but if my hon. friend has any it will be very useful for us to have it.

COTTON

***1977. Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton—short, medium and long staple—that will be required in the year 1951;

(b) the estimated production within India in the year 1951; and

(c) the estimate of import in the year 1951?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the

Table of the House. As the statement is a short one I shall read it for the information of the House.

STATEMENT

(a)	Short staple 11/16" and below	3 lakh bales
	Medium staple above 11/13" and below 7/8".	20 lakh bales
	Long staple 7/8" to 1"	10 lakh bales
	Foreign cotton over 1"	9 lakh bales
	Total	42 lakh bales.
(b)	Estimated production.	2,950,000 to 30 lakh bales.
(c)	Estimated imports in 1951.	865,000 bales.

Shri Barman: Does the quantity of foreign cotton imported include import from Pakistan also?

Shri Karmarkar: No, it does not.

Shri Barman: May I know what new parts of the country have been explored for the purpose of growing cotton and whether North Bengal which once used to grow a large volume of cotton has been explored for the purpose?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The Agriculture Ministry have taken adequate steps in the matter.

FISCAL COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS

*1978. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the Fiscal Commission's Report; and

(b) what recommendations if any, have Government accepted by now?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Fiscal Commission's Report is still under the consideration of Government.

(b) Government have already taken a decision on the central recommendation of the Fiscal Commission that a permanent and statutory Tariff Commission should be set up immediately. It is proposed to introduce a Bill on the subject in the current session of Parliament.

Shri Barman: May I ask whether the recommendations of the Fiscal Commission about special measures for the development of cottage industries and small scale industries on co-operative or individual lines have been attended to by the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: They are under our very close consideration and I might inform my hon. friend the question of cottage and small scale industries especially is receiving the very close attention at the moment.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि यह फिस्कल कमिशन की रिपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट के सामने कब पेश हुई थी ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state when the report of the Fiscal Commission was presented to the Government?]

श्री करमारकर : एग्जैक्ट डेट तो मैं बाद में बतलाऊंगा, लेकिन अगर याद से कहूं तो शायद चार महीने पहले ।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** I will mention the exact date afterwards, but so far as I remember it was presented some four months back.]

Shri T. N. Singh: May I ask if Government will give the House an opportunity to discuss this Fiscal Commission's Report?

Shri Karmarkar: We shall consider that point. Surely at some stage or other when the legislation is on the floor of the House we shall have an occasion to discuss the Fiscal Commission's Report also.

SUPPLY OF FILTERED WATER IN COLLIERIES IN HAZARIBAGH

*1981. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of collieries, state-owned and private, in the district of Hazaribagh where filtered water is supplied; and

(b) the names of collieries where there is no such arrangement?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 22.]

Shri Jnani Ram: In the statement it has been stated that Kurhurbaree and Serampore are partly supplied with filtered and partly from the disused shafts. May I know when the Government is expected to supply filtered water entirely?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There are obvious difficulties in supplying filtered water to all the coal-fields or even in those coal fields, because there is no arrangement for water in these areas and the possibility of having water works in the near future seems to be remote.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the steps which the Government is taking to enforce the supply of filtered water in other private collieries?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We had been insisting upon the various Mines Boards of Health to have a scheme of filtered water in those areas but the State Governments concerned as well as the Mines Boards indicate their inability to have the water works for want of finances and also on account of suitable water sites.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the time by which all the collieries are expected to supply filtered water?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is very difficult to indicate any time limit for that.

Shri Jnani Ram: Is it a fact that very often water from the mines is diverted for drinking purposes even in Government collieries?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As it is clear from the statement, it is only in two Government collieries that this is done.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if complaints were filed by Bhurkunda and Pipparodi collieries about the supply of mine water as drinking water?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not exactly remember about the complaints, but in some cases where the water supply from the filtered water heads is not sufficient, water from the Mines is also utilized.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any specific scheme for the Government to supply filtered water to those colliery workers within a specific period?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I have already answered that question. We have got schemes to supply filtered water in certain areas of the coal-fields but in the very nature of the works there, it is not possible to supply filtered water in all the collieries in the near future.

CINEMAS

*1982. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of more Cinema houses in New Delhi is being considered in the development plans for Delhi:

(b) if so, what are the sites for these new cinemas; and

(c) whether construction of a nursing home and a fish market are also under consideration?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Yes.

(b) The selection of sites for new Cinema Houses is under consideration.

(c) The construction of nursing homes is under consideration but the question of construction of a fish market in New Delhi has not so far been considered. A suitable site for a fish and other market near Jama Masjid in Old Delhi is however under consideration.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the scheme for constructing cinema houses has been drawn up by the Town Planning Sub-Committee?

Shri Buragohain: Yes, Sir. The Delhi Development Sub-Committee with the Chief Commissioner as the Chairman had considered certain sites in the city, namely, in the Upper Ridge Road, Vinay Nagar and Lodi Road. They have not yet come to any final conclusions.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this fish market and the nursing home are private-owned or public-owned?

Shri Buragohain: I do not think the Delhi Administration holds any market but certainly this will be in charge of the Municipal Committee.

Shri Kamath: Does the Prime Minister's assurance to this House and the directive issued by him to State Governments some months ago that valuable building material should not be wasted on cinema houses and luxury buildings, still operate?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I hope it does, Sir. But it was pointed out to me by one or two States that certain difficulties have arisen, that is to say, none of the States wanted to spend building materials in cinema projects, but some of them were half built and quarter built and they said: these buildings

are completely useless for other purposes and so on and so forth. I gave permission to finish these buildings, of course, at the requests made by State Governments. But they have to decide for themselves if any other difficulties arise.

Shri Kamath: The question here is whether the construction of new cinema houses in New Delhi is under consideration.

Mr. Speaker: They have not yet constructed the cinema houses; they have schemes for that.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what is the present number of cinemas in Delhi and whether that number is regarded as insufficient for the requirements of the public?

Shri Buragohain: As the question specifically related only to new construction of cinemas and others, I should like to have notice of this question. I have not got that information with me.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if any sites have been reserved for educational institutions in this development plan?

Shri Buragohain: That is another question. I would like to have notice of that question.

COAL DEMAND

*1983. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state what is the estimate of the increased demand of coal necessitated by the various development projects undertaken by the Government of India and States Governments?

(b) Will our production of coal adequately meet the increased demand?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what steps are being taken to augment the production of coal?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) It is estimated that the demand for coal will increase at the rate of 0·6 million tons per year, during the next five years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What quantity of coal will mostly be required for those projects?

Shri Buragohain: That is a question of detail and I have not got the figures with me at the moment.

Shri T. N. Singh: Will the hon. Minister inform us as to what new collieries are planned to be opened up during the next five years so that the progressive demand may be met?

Shri Buragohain: Recently, Sir, the whole question was gone into by the Planning Commission on the basis of certain reports received from the Coal Commissioner and certain recommendations have been made by the Planning Commission and they are now under the consideration of the Government.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that there is already a surplus of about 2½ million tons of coal production in India?

Shri Buragohain: The production has to be stepped up according to the demand. Certainly in the next few years, in view of the recent pact with Pakistan, that demand will go up and therefore, we will have to step up production accordingly.

PRODUCTION OF LIVER EXTRACTS

*1984. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many firms are there in India which produce liver extracts both for injection and to be taken by mouth?

(b) Does this industry enjoy any protection?

(c) How much liver extracts of both kinds were imported during 1949-50?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 21.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Accurate information is not available, as imports of liver extracts are not separately recorded in the Import Trade Returns.

It is, however, estimated that during 1949, 40 lakh c.c.'s of injectable Liver Extracts, 2·20 lakh lbs. of Orally Usable Liver Extracts and 4·60 million capsules of Liver Extracts were imported from the U.S.A. and the U.K.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Sir, in answer to part (b) of the question, the hon. Minister said, 'No'. May I know whether this industry was enjoying any protection before?

Shri Mahtab: This matter was referred to the Tariff Board in 1947. They held a public enquiry and after taking all aspects into consideration, they did not recommend any protection.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the annual aggregate capacity of production of liver extracts of these 21 firms for oral and injection purposes?

Shri Mahtab: From the statement which was prepared for the Tariff Board, it is seen that the production in 1948 was 115, and in 1949, 132. The figure for 1950 is not available. This is in relation to the injectable extracts. So far as the orally usable extracts are concerned, it was 4·46 lakh lbs. in 1948, 4·69 lakhs lbs. in 1949 and in the four months of 1950, 1·06 lakh lbs.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the reasons put forward by the Tariff Board for not giving protection to the industry?

Shri Mahtab: According to the Tariff Board, the fair selling price of the indigenous products was appreciably below the landed cost ex-duty of comparable imports. They have made certain other recommendations which have been accepted by the Government in toto.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Could we know the location of these industries State-wise?

Shri Mahtab: I have got the list; some are in Bombay, some in Calcutta, some elsewhere. I can lay this list on the Table. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 36.] There are 21 firms.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any import duty has been imposed upon the import of liver extracts and whether any restriction has been imposed upon the import of liver extracts?

Shri Mahtab: There is no restriction at present.

Dr. M. M. Das: Any import duty?

Shri Mahtab: I do not think there is any import duty.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is there any scarcity of raw liver to extract liver extracts?

Shri Mahtab: I am not aware; but it appears from the recommendations of the Tariff Board that they have been insisting upon some clinical arrangements for the firms where these extracts are manufactured. We have advised the State Governments to set up cold storage plants to keep the livers in proper condition before they are taken to the manufacturing firm.

VIOLATION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT REGULATIONS

*1985. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of firms detected by Government for violation of Import and Export Regulations during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(b) the exact nature of the offences committed;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government against the offenders; and

(d) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The number of firms detected for violation of Import and Export Regulations during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 was 141 and 234 respectively.

(b) The offences committed fall under one or other of the following categories:

(1) Trafficking in import and export licences.

(2) Production of forged or tampered documents.

(3) Transfer or sale of goods imported against a licence in contravention of the conditions.

(4) Continuous breach of import trade regulations by importing goods without licences.

(5) Obtaining licences fraudulently by making applications to the same or two different licensing authorities during the same period and for the same items.

(6) Obtaining licences by fraudulent means other than those specified in item (5) above.

(7) Making different applications in different capacities such as established importers, newcomers etc.

(8) Contravention of Rules and Regulations under Foreign Exchange Control Act.

(9) Offering bribes to the staff.

(10) Contravention of Export Trade Control Regulations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The offenders have been debarred from receiving import and export licences permanently or for a fixed period depending on the nature of the offence in such cases.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the maintenance of a certain required standard in our exported goods is also included in the list of conditions?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir, to my knowledge.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the number of violation of the regulations during the current year?

Shri Karmarkar: Current year, 1951 January and February?

Dr. M. M. Das: 1950-51.

Shri Karmarkar: I shall compile the information and pass it on to the hon. Member.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the hon. Minister will inform the House the names of the firms who have been convicted?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not in a position now; but there is nothing to prevent us from doing that if the hon. Member wants.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member wants the names of the firms?

Shri Karmarkar: The names of all the 300 and odd firms.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt whether it should be done.

Shri Karmarkar: Then, I stand corrected, Sir.

Shri Barman: When a firm is convicted or is removed from the list, what is the procedure for bringing them back on the list? Is it the procedure that after a certain time, the firm is exonerated from the fault?

Shri Karmarkar: There is no question of exoneration. Either the bar is for a certain period or permanent. If it is for a certain period, after that period of time, the firm comes in automatically in the list of eligible firms.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that several firms are able to get these licences irregularly due to the connivance of officials? May I know whether any cases of such connivance have come to the notice of Government and the action thereon?

Shri Karmarkar: Does my hon. friend mean by irregularity, a person getting a licence to which he is not entitled?

Shri T. N. Singh: As well as without any proper application.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes; a few cases like that have been brought to our notice.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that some party got a licence without having made any application, and did this matter come to the notice of the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware of any single instance where a party got a licence without making an application.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know the number of officials who were found guilty of assisting or abetting the commission of any of these offences?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got the figures with me. The number of cases in which action was taken against officials is very small.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the Government any information that the firms black-listed have got import licences through some other subsidiary firms or associate firms?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any such case come to the notice of Government?

Shri Karmarkar: We have no information.

Site for the Diplomatic Enclave

*1986. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred up till now for developing the site for the Diplomatic Enclave in New Delhi;

(b) the number of plots developed for the construction of buildings so far;

(c) the area of each plot and its sale-price; and

(d) the number of plots which have been sold to foreign embassies up till now?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Rs. 46,58,027.

(b) 332.

(c) The area of the plots varies from ¼ acre to 12 acres; as regards sale price, the plots will be sold to Foreign Missions at the rates ranging from Rs. 40,000 to 50,000 per acre, (depending upon the locality and size of the plot) plus 2½ per cent. annual ground rent thereon. In the case of those, who desire to commute the ground rent, Rs. 40,000 per acre will be recovered in addition to the premium amount mentioned above. No rates of premium have yet been fixed for the land which will be sold to private parties.

(d) No plot has been actually sold so far, but some of the Missions have provisionally selected certain plots, for which they are expected to communicate their final decision by 15th July, 1951.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether some plots have been reserved for private individuals for building residential houses?

Shri Buragohain: Except in the case of the Modern Hotel for which 17 acres have been ear-marked, no such reservation has been made for private parties.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Government contemplates to reserve some of the plots for residential houses for private persons?

Shri Buragohain: The whole matter is under consideration. But, that would come only after the demands of the foreign Missions are met.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Government contemplates to fix different rates of sale price for plots sold to the foreign Embassies and private individuals?

Shri Buragohain: For the private parties, they will be sold by well advertised public auction.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is it a fact that the policy of prohibition is standing in the way of construction of this hotel?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether negotiations were held with any foreign country for the exchange of land for embassy purposes?

Shri Buragohain: That is I think more than what I can say, with regard to exchange. But, as I have already said, certain foreign Missions have made provisional selections.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Sir, may I know the names of the countries which have ear-marked the land meant for them?

Shri Buragohain: They are:

The Embassy of Belgium and the land ear-marked is 8 acres.

The Embassy of the U.S.A. has 33·7 acres.

The U.K. High Commissioner has 24 acres.

The Pakistan High Commissioner has 12·6 acres; and

Australia has about the same area, i.e., 12·6 acres.

Rev. D'Souza: Sir, are Government satisfied that the response from some of the Embassies is sufficiently large and if the expectations are not fulfilled, cannot some of the conditions attached to the allotting of these plots be changed so as to provoke a larger measure of response?

Shri Buragohain: Sir, that appears to be a hypothetical question at this stage.

Shri Kamath: Sir, with regard to the countries or embassies who have been granted land in India, has India got or acquired any land in those countries on a reciprocal basis?

Shri Buragohain: Sir, I think I have already said that that is more than what I can say.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, this question is covered by the previous one.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, may I know whether arrangements for supply of drainage, adequate filtered water and electricity have already been made in these plots?

Shri Buragohain: Sir, only the first stage of development is being now worked out. There is still a second stage which has to be gone through for the development of these plots.

Coffee Houses

*1987. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many Coffee Houses are run under the Coffee Board?

(b) What was the income from the Indian Coffee Houses and their expenditure in the year 1950?

(c) How many of them are self-sufficient?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 42.

(b) These accounts are maintained not for the calendar year but for the crop year. For the crop year 1949-50, i.e. 1st July 1949 to the 30th June 1950, the income and expenditure were as follows:

Income—Rs. 75,51,836.

Expenditure—Rs. 76,34,753.

(c) 28.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Sir, may I know whether any Coffee Houses were closed because of the insufficiency of the income at those Coffee Houses?

Shri Mahtab: I have already said that only 28 are paying and the others are therefore not paying. Some time back one of the officers of the Finance Ministry went into the accounts of some of the Houses. Of course these Coffee Houses are meant for propaganda purposes. But he has recommended that the Coffee Houses which are not paying should be closed and Government have accepted it.

Shri Lakshmanan: Sir, may I know what is the meaning of the term "self-sufficient" or "insufficient" in respect of a Coffee House?

Shri Sondhi: It means self-supporting.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, that is what is meant. It is very clear.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: May I know if adequate steps are being taken to maintain sanitary conditions in these Coffee Houses?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister can reply to this question if he likes.

Shri Mahtab: The Coffee Houses are run by a statutory body and I should think such steps are being taken.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Sir, does the Coffee Board run coffee houses at different places in India where exhibitions are being held?

Shri Mahtab: I think they do.

TRADE BALANCES

*1988. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the Trade Balances with respect to imports and exports for the year 1950 between India and Sterling and Dollar Areas separately?

(b) Do Government propose to give similar figures relating to invisible Trade Balances?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 23.]

Shri T. N. Singh: With reference to part (a), may I know Sir, what are the re-exports to the sterling area as stated in the statement given by the hon. Minister?

Shri Karmarkar: They come under two heads; for separate figures under this head, I would require notice, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, what are the services for which receipts have been received under the heading—"Invisible export and import" from the dollar area?

Shri Karmarkar: There is invisible trade both with the dollar and the soft currency areas; for instance shipping charges, insurance, tourist expenditure, reparation payments etc. they come under this head. The break-up for the dollar area and the soft currency area will be done in due course.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, under the receipts from the sterling as well as the dollar areas, is there any amount which relates to the shipping-freight earning by our shipping companies?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I would require notice.

COAL PRICES

*1989. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the basis on which the existing prices of coal of different classes were fixed in different coal-fields in the country and what are those prices?

(b) What was the amount per ton added to the sale prices of coal to meet the cost of food grain concessions, provident fund and bonus to colliery labour and how was it arrived at?

(c) Have Government carried out any investigation or do they propose to investigate as to whether the additional increase in the price of coal was fully spent by the colliery owners in the concessions allowed to them as in part (b) above?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The existing prices of coal have been fixed on the basis of production cost as disclosed by cost investigation.

A statement showing the current prices of coal is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 24.]

(b) The increase in price sanctioned was on the basis of all the concessions granted under the Conciliation Board Award and also taking into account the production cost prevailing at that time. The over-all increase sanctioned in the various fields was as follows:

Bengal/Bihar.....Rs. 3/8/-.
Madhya Pradesh.....Rs. 2/13/- to Rs. 3/7/-.
Assam.....Re. 1/- to Rs. 3/8/-.
Rewa.....Rs. 3/8/-
Talcher.....Rs. 1/6/-.
Korea.....Rs. 1/2/-.

(c) No investigations have been carried out, but Government are satisfied that the recommendations of the Conciliation Board Award and Fact Finding Committees have been generally implemented by the colliery owners.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Sir, are the Government aware that the coal is being sold in the market at a much lower price than the controlled price fixed by the Government?

Shri Buragohain: Sir, I am not aware of any such thing.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Are the Government aware that this is due to the savings resulting from the concessions which have been made to labour and if so, will Government make an enquiry into this matter?

Shri Buragohain: As I have already said, Government have no reasons to think that the concessions have not been implemented and the benefits have not been transmitted to the workers.

Shri R. L. Malviya: These concessions having been granted some three years back and conditions having changed a lot during these two years and more, will Government investigate the present conditions and find out why the coal is being under-sold?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, it is making a suggestion.

REQUIREMENTS OF IRON AND STEEL

*1990. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron and steel which falls short of requirement in the country;

(b) the quantity imported, the price per ton, and the names of the countries from which they have been imported; and

(c) when Government propose to undertake the two projects in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) About 1 to 1½ million tons.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 25.]

(c) As soon as funds permit.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Sir, what is the total quantity of the imported iron and steel?

Shri Mahtab: The figures are there though they have not been totalled up. It is a short list and I can read it out. They are as follows:

In 1949, from the U.K. 84,008 tons and 1,43,402 tons, U.S.A. 53,434 tons and 1,14,908 tons, Japan 795 tons.

In 1950 from the U.K. 1,83,862 tons and 59,789 tons, U.S.A. 15,581 tons and 3,900 tons, Japan 12,874 tons.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Sir, what is the difference between the price of Indian steel and the price of imported steel?

Shri Mahtab: The prices of steel imported from abroad have been given in the statement here. The price of Indian steel is lower, but I do not have the figures here with me.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, what is the policy of the Government for the year 1951 regarding the import of steel? Do they want to purchase on their own account as they did last year or will they issue licences for the import?

Shri Mahtab: The same procedure will be followed. But the import depends upon the availability of the goods. Government do not propose to purchase all the steel on their own account.

Shri Sidhva: But last year they bought on their own account and then sold it to the people. Do they want to follow the same procedure this year also?

Shri Mahtab: Government do not propose to purchase all on their own account. But last year some licences were granted apart from their own purchases.

Shri Jnani Ram: How much of these are diverted for agricultural purposes?

Shri Mahtab: I have given figures in the statement to show what the Government requirements are and what the civil requirements are other than Government requirement. The quota allotted for agricultural purposes is given to the Ministry of Agriculture but I have not got the figures here.

Dr. Deshmukh: With regard to reply to part (c) of the question may I know if there is any possibility of any funds being available during the current financial year for these two projects in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa?

Shri Mahtab: With regard to part (c) I can assure the hon. Member that all efforts are being made by Government either to import capital for this purpose or secure funds here.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the likelihood of success?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Guha.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is, the installed capacity of the steel factory and how far steel production falls short of that capacity?

Shri Mahtab: The capacity of the existing factory is about one million tons. The shortage is 1 to 1½ million tons.

YARN REQUIREMENTS

*1991. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the average quantity of yarn per day required by a handloom to keep it completely engaged;

(b) the average quantity received by a handloom in the year 1950 in Travancore-Cochin and Madras States respectively;

(c) the quantity of yarn of lower and higher counts applied for by Travancore-Cochin State in the years 1950 and 1951; and

(d) the quantity of handloom cloth purchased by the Government of India from Travancore-Cochin State Government in the year 1950 and what was the quantity promised to be purchased?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) On an average about 20 lbs. per month will be the normal requirements of a handloom.

(b) The average quantity received by a handloom in Travancore-Cochin and Madras per month during the year 1950 works out to 7 and 9·7 lbs. respectively.

(c) The Travancore-Cochin Government applied for the following counts and quantities of yarn during 1950 in addition to their usual quota of yarn:

1 to 10s.....124 bales.
11 to 20s.....2160 bales
Over 20s.....358 bales

(d) No purchases were made from the Travancore-Cochin Government as the samples submitted were not upto the specification, and no promise for the purchase appears to have been made.

Shri Alexander: Is it a fact that the quota of yarn allotted to Travancore-Cochin State was diverted to Madras thus causing a serious shortage of yarn in the former State?

Shri Mahtab: There are some Short Notice Questions coming up for answer today. All these questions can be dealt with then.

Shri Chattopadhyay: What is the lowest quota received by any State during the current year?

Shri Mahtab: I will give all that information in my reply to the Short Notice Questions.

Shri Alexander: In view of the serious yarn shortage do Government propose to install some yarn-manufacturing Japanese machinery in the handloom areas?

Shri Mahtab: I can say that all steps are being taken to increase the production of yarn. There is also a very definite proposal to increase production of yarn by means of the *charka*. All these proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

LEMON GRASS OIL

*1992. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the average price of Lemon Grass Oil in the respective years 1949 and 1950, the total quantity exported and the countries to which they are exported;

(b) whether any attempt is made to maintain the quality of the oil and if so, what are the steps; and

(c) whether any encouragement is given to the cultivation and production of the oil and if so, what is the nature and extent of the same?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) (i) Average price

1949 (January to December)—Rs. 49 per gallon.

1950 (January to October)—Rs. 76 per gallon.

(ii) Total quantity exported

1949-50—7,88,199 lbs.

1950-51 (April to December, 1950)—8,81,880 lbs.

(iii) It was exported to the following countries during these two years:—

United Kingdom, U.S.A., Netherlands France, Italy, Switzerland, Western Germany, Belgium, Australia, Canada, Japan, Ceylon, Egypt, Palestine, Kenya Colony, China, Zanzibar and Pemba.

(b) The Indian Standards Institution are drawing up a Standard Specification for lemon grass oil.

(c) In the States where this particular grass grows, the Forest Department sells the grass coupes at reasonable rates and brings new areas to the notice of the prospective distillers.

The villages are provided with a better type of still with a view to obtaining a better quality of the oil.

Steps are taken to eliminate the admixture of white grass with true lemon grass.

Shri Alexander: Is it a fact that the export of this product is controlled by a few merchants and the poor growers are not getting any benefit out of that? If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

Shri Mahtab: This commodity is not under any control and according to our present reports it is a special concern of Travancore. If the State Government takes it up they can protect the grower.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any standard required for this oil for purposes of export?

Shri Mahtab: I have already stated that the Indian Standards Institute have taken it up and are trying to specify some standards.

SHIFTING OF OFFICES FROM DELHI

*1993. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government have completed their plans to transfer some of the offices of the Government of India from Delhi and other places and if so, what are they?

(b) How many offices have so far been shifted and to which places?

(c) How many cities have been selected by Government in the State of Madhya Pradesh for the transfer of offices and which are the offices to be shifted?

(d) Are Saugor, Jubbulpore, Itarsi and Baitul, the places so selected, if so, what offices are likely to be transferred there and when?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The matter is being examined in the light of the changed financial position and the prospective retrenchment of staff in some Ministries as a result of re-organisation.

(b) Three, namely:

(i) Office of the Surveyor-General to Mussorie.

(ii) Directorate of Seamen's Welfare to Bombay.

(iii) Development Branch of D.G.P. and T. to Jubbulpore, and the fourth viz. D.A.G.P. & T(E.P. Circle) are in the course of moving to Kapurthala to which a section of the office has moved.

(c) and (d). Only Jubbulpore where the Development Branch of D.G.P. & T. have already moved as stated in Part (b) above.

Shri R. L. Malviya: What offices are going to be transferred, if any, in the year 1951-52.

Shri Buragohain: The whole matter is under reconsideration.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if the office of the Oilseeds Committee is going to continue to remain in Delhi?

Mr. Speaker: I suppose it is included in the offices which are under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the decision taken by Government in 1950 will be revoked when the matter is reconsidered by the Government?

Shri Buragohain: As I stated, the whole matter is again being examined.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Do Government propose to utilise some of the big palaces in the Indian States which have now been handed over to the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. This question has been answered several times.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether it is proposed to give any hill allowance to the personnel of the offices which are going to be shifted to Kasauli and Dharamsala?

Shri Buragohain: No office is going to Kasauli.

Mr. Speaker: The whole question is hypothetical at this stage.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether with regard to some of the offices which had already been shifted to Dehra Dun, afterwards all the records were brought back to Delhi?

Shri Buragohain: I have already stated that the Office of the Surveyor-General has moved to Mussoorie.

MIGRANTS FROM EAST BENGAL

*1994. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what is the number of Muslims, returning every week from East to West Bengal since 1st January, 1951 up to date?

(b) What was the total number of Hindus who migrated from East Bengal to India since 7th February 1950 up to 7th January 1951?

(c) What is the total number of Muslims who came to India from East Bengal during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Approximately 32·79 lakh Hindus travelled by train from East Bengal to India during the period and approximately 17·88 lakh Hindus travelled from India to East Bengal by train

resulting in net influx into India of about 14·91 lakh Hindus. These travellers included migrants and others.

(c) Approximately 11·35 lakh Muslims came to India from East Bengal upto the 25th February, 1951.

STATEMENT

The number of Muslims who have travelled from East Bengal to West Bengal by train since January, 1951.

Week ending		No.
7-1-51	.....	15,229
14-1-51	.....	15,126
21-1-51	.....	15,069
28-1-51	.....	15,470
4-2-51	.....	16,384
11-2-51	.....	17,036
18-2-51	.....	16,931
25-2-51	.....	15,371
Total	.....	1,26,616

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many of the Hindus who came over here have remained and have not gone back to East Bengal?

Dr. Keskar: It is very difficult to answer that question, as there is a continuous movement and people are coming and going. It will take sometime before Government is able to state the number of those who propose to remain here as migrants.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know if quite a good number is still here?

Dr. Keskar: I said in my reply that the number is more than a million.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many Hindus and Muslims went from India to East Bengal in 1950?

Dr. Keskar: I have not got the figures for 1950 as a whole.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Sir, on the subject of yarn and cloth several Members have given notice of Short Notice Questions. I have got answers for all of them but before taking them up may I make a statement with regard to the general position?

Mr. Speaker: I think he could make it.

Shri Sidhva: Let the questions be put and then he can make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let it be left to him to make a suggestion to the Chair and let it be open to the Chair to consider it.

Does the hon. Minister want to make a general statement.

Shri Mahtab: Yes, Sir. After that I will reply to all these questions.

Mr. Speaker: The statement is with reference to the points mentioned in the questions?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Then the procedure which I shall follow will be to ask each hon. Member to put his question, and then all the questions can be answered together.

Shri Mahtab: Beginning with the statement.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. The hon. Minister may make his statement after the questions are put. Now, hon. Members can put their questions.

Shri Mahtab: There was a Short Notice Question tabled by Dr. Deshmukh also.

Mr. Speaker: Is it admitted for today?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: It is not included in my agenda. Anway I have no objection to its being put.

Shri Mahtab: I am making a general statement before replying to the questions separately.

For the purpose of assessment of the present cloth and yarn position in the country, the year of 1948 may be considered as the peak period with regard to production of cloth and yarn. Production was the highest because of the price incentive which decontrol gave to the manufacturers, adequate supplies of cotton and absence of strikes. The average monthly production of cloth was—

	(in thousands)
1946	325,714 yds.
1947	313,498 ,,
1948	359,954 ,,
1949	325,350 ,,
1950	305,612 ,,

The average monthly production of yarn was—

	(in thousands)
1946	113,922 lbs.
1947	107,975 ,,
1948	120,423 ,,
1949	113,259 ,,
1950	97,753 ,,

The above figures will show that the production was the highest in 1948 and

it was the lowest in the year 1950 due to the following reasons:

(1) Shortage of cotton;

(2) Closure of several mills due to uneconomic conditions: The prices fixed under the Tariff Board formula were unremunerative to these uneconomic units;

(3) Strikes in the textile mills.

With regard to yarn, there were some additional reasons also—namely cut in electric power, resorted to by the Madras and Mysore Governments, which reduced the working hours in the spinning mills in Southern India. Another reason was that the composite mills did not manufacture free yarn, for handlooms, because of the price formula of the Tariff Board which allowed a low margin of profit on spinning head.

Although the production was the lowest, a large export market opened up for the textile goods. In the beginning there was no idea as to the proportion the export of Indian textile goods would assume. Therefore there was no restriction on export till April 1950. Then it was found necessary that heavy exports were to be restricted. Accordingly a quota of cloth at one thousand million yards were fixed for the period September. 1949 to December 1950 with free exports of fine and superfine cloth. The idea at that time was to restrict the export of medium and coarse cloth which is manufactured out of Indian cotton, and which is required for internal consumption and to encourage export of fine and superfine cloth which is usually manufactured out of the imported cotton. Similarly, the export of yarn also was allowed to a considerable extent.

On account of low production and heavy exports, the cloth and yarn position became very difficult in the year 1950. During this year, November-December were the leanest months in which cloth and yarn supply to the States was the lowest. To have an idea of the exact position, I would take the case of Bihar, for examination of the supply position of cloth, and the case of Madras for that yarn.

Quarterly quota due to Bihar on the basis of 1948 production was 68,100 bales. But in view of large production, the quarterly allotment for the first quarter 1949 was 77,354 bales. For the second quarter, 72,889 bales were allotted. For the third quarter 1949, 73,687 bales were allotted. These allotments apparently were not moving to the States each quarter. Evidently on the State's account, there were large accumulations. This is the reason why the cut in allotments, which was gradually made since the last quarter of 1949 was not felt by the State. The allotment for the last quarter of 1949 was 52,559.

The allotment in the second quarter of 1950 was 42,480 and in the third quarter, 40,656 bales.

In the last quarter of 1950, the allotment was 25,665 bales. The despatches during December 1950 were the lowest viz. 6,280½ bales, the lowest figure on record.

With regard to yarn, the monthly quota of allotments to Madras in December 1948 was 22,500 bales per month. Since the yarn production came down considerably by about 48 per cent. in subsequent years, the equitable share for Madras became 11,700 bales per month. But Madras continued to receive much higher quotas than her equitable share, till November 1950. The average deliveries during January-August 1950 to Madras were 21,231 bales per month. In September, Madras got 18,617 bales. In October she got 13,825 bales. But in November Madras received 9,832 bales and in December, only 11,848 bales.

From these figures it will be seen that supply to Madras had been substantially reduced only from October 1950 and that too, for three months. In October last, when it was found that the supply position of cloth and yarn was difficult, effective steps were taken to make more cloth and yarn available for internal consumption. Accordingly restrictions on export of cloth was imposed and the export of yarn was totally banned. Further, more incentive was given for increased production of free yarn for handlooms. The increased price of raw cotton which was recognised by about middle of 1950 was taken into account with effect from January 1951.

As a result of all these steps, the production of both cloth and yarn has considerably increased since January. The production of cloth in January 1951 was 339,415 yds. and that of yarn 106,793 lbs. Accordingly allotment to the States have been considerably increased since January 1951. Bihar has got in January 14,634 bales of cloth as against only 6,280 bales in December 1950. Similarly Madras has got 15,407 bales of yarn as against 11,848 bales of yarn in December 1950. According to the present calculation, everything remaining normal, the States are likely to receive their quotas of yarn and cloth by the end of April to the same extent as they used to get before 1950.

Because of the tempo, of export the mills did not manufacture sufficient quantity of *dhoties* and *saries* for internal consumption. Therefore the mills have been directed in the beginning of February 1951, under the Textile Control Order, to employ a minimum of 50 per cent. to all looms of reed space between 48" and 58" for the production of *dhoties* and *saries* and to use 60 per cent. of this for production of *dhoties* only. This is sure to give an increased supply of *dhoties* and *saries* for internal consumption.

As regards the distribution of yarn to handlooms in the States there was a snag that the powerlooms remained uncontrolled. In order to make distribution of yarn smooth in the States, control has been extended to powerlooms also disabling them from remaining in a position to purchase yarn illicitly at any price they choose from the shares of handloom weavers. Free sale of one-third of production of varn which was with the mills, has now been withdrawn. The withdrawal of the same concession with regard to cloth is now under active consideration

From the above report, the House will see that the most difficult period has been over about two months ago, and the supply position of cloth and yarn has steadily improved since January. It is possible that distribution of the increased production is defective in some places. Both the Central Government and the State Governments are taking vigorous steps to tighten up the administration so that the benefit of the increased production may go to the people unhampered by adventures and speculators in the middle.

Shortage of Yarn and Cloth in Manipur and Assam

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Assam and Manipur have at present been passing through an acute shortage of cloth and yarn and the people are undergoing untold hardships so much so that no mill made cloth is available in the market, while a restricted supply is available in the black-market at a price between 60 and 100 per cent. higher than the fixed price;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to supply the full normal monthly quotas of three thousand bales of cloth and two thousand bales of yarn to the State with retrospective effect; and

(c) what were the monthly quotas of cloth and yarn supplied to the State from July 1950 to February 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) We have not received any communication from either the Assam Government or the Manipur Government reporting shortage of cloth in their zones. We have also no information that the people in those zones are undergoing untold hardships and that mill made cloth is available in the blackmarket at prices ranging between 60 to 100 per cent. over the controlled rates.

It may be stated for information that when Government permitted mills in the Union to sell one third of their production for civil consumption to buyers of their choice with effect from September 1949 onwards, we prohibited movements of such cloth to Assam through free trade channels. The reason for this was that Assam had complained of accumulations of cloth in that zone and did not want free sale of cloth to come into the zone. This prohibition operated till 31st March 1950. Likewise, Manipur had also complained of accumulations of cloth and did not procure its quota of cloth from October 1949 to September 1950.

The Government is aware that there is a general shortage of yarn in the country and that all States have been getting far less than their requirements.

(b) The mill cloth quotas of Assam and Manipur as fixed by Government in December 1948 were 4,700 bales and 280 bales per month respectively. As, however, Government are at present distributing through controlled channels only two-thirds of mill production for civil consumption, only two-thirds of the mill cloth quotas are allotted in each month, i.e. 3133 bales and 187 bales, respectively. These two-third quotas have been subjected to the general cuts applied on the cloth quotas of all zones during the months June, July, September, October, November and December, 1950. The cuts ranged between 10 and 33·1/3 per cent. of the two-thirds quotas. The present system of allotting the two-third quota will continue so long as the existing distribution policy of Government remained in force.

The position in respect of yarn supplies to the two States is given below:

The quotas fixed for Assam and Manipur in December, 1948 were 1,355 bales and 125 bales respectively. On an average Assam and Manipur had received 811 bales and 45 bales per month respectively during July to December, 1950 whereas their equitable share based on the total availability of yarn during that period would work out to 664 and 61 bales respectively. The deliveries to Manipur State had been less than their equitable share in view of the fact that Manipur State authorities had not made satisfactory arrangements to lift the yarn allotted to them in July and August. We have made an *ad hoc* allotment of 50 bales in January and 200 bales in February 1951 to Manipur on a request for additional supplies from the State authorities. It is not proposed to allot any further yarn with retrospective effect.

(c) The monthly quotas of cloth allotted to Assam and Manipur from July 1950 to February, 1951 are given below. These figures represent the net allotments, i.e., after the application of the cuts which were imposed from month to month:

Month of allotment	Quantity of mill-cloth allotted in bales	
	Assam	Manipur
July, 1950	2733	..
August, 1950	3128	..
September, 1950	2333	..
October, 1950	2510	108
November, 1950	2132	122
December, 1950	2333	135
January, 1951	2523	148
February, 1951	1403	83

The movements of cloth to Assam through controlled and normal trade channels during the period July 1950 to January 1951 are also given below. Figures for February have not yet become available. It may also be stated that separate figures of movements of cloth for Manipur are not available as under the Cotton Textiles (Control of Movement) Order, Assam and Manipur are not separate zones.

Month	Quantity of cloth moved into the zone through controlled channels.	Quantity moved through normal trade channels.
July, '50	2254½	196
August, '50	2232½	63½
September, '50	2520½	99
October, '50	2469	76
November, '50	2222	1
December, '50	935	2
January, '51	2574½	66
February, '51	Not available	

The deliveries of yarn to the two States from July to December, 1950 is shown below:

Month	Deliveries to Assam	Deliveries to Manipur
	(Bales)	(Bales)
July, 1950	615	..
August, 1950	609	..
September, 1950	838	52
October, 1950	965	35
November, 1950	741	127
December, 1950	1099	54
	4867	268

During January, 1951, Assam had received offers for 744 bales and Manipur had received offers for 25 bales against their equitable share of 610 bales and 56 bales respectively. The position in respect of offers during the month of February would be clear at the end of this month.

Shortage of Yarn in Madras

Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about 50 per cent. of the surplus yarn of India is produced in the Mills situated in the Madras State?

(b) If so, what is the reason for the acute shortage of yarn in the Madras State?

(c) Has production of yarn been affected in any way by the frequent cut of electricity to the Mills by the Government Power Supply?

(d) Has Government's attention been drawn to the statement of the South Indian Millowners *vide* page 8 of the "Hindu" dated the 20th February 1951 and the editorial in the "Hindu" dated the 21st February mentioning cases of suicides on account of unemployment due to the shortage of yarn?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) The reasons for the acute shortage of yarn in general which are applicable in the case of Madras State also are:

(1) Fall in production of yarn due to closure of certain uneconomic spinning mills and

(2) Large unprecedented exports of yarn which were taking place during the first few months of the year;

(3) Strike in mills in Bombay;

(4) Shortage of requisite types of cotton; and

(5) Cut in electric power resorted to by the Madras and Mysore Governments which reduced the working hours in the mills.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes. But the reports require verification for unemployment is not confined only to Madras and also Madras have got more supplies of yarn in January than they had in previous months.

HOARDING OF IMPORTED ART SILK YARN

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that imported art silk yarn is being hoarded, cornered and profiteered in by speculators in Bombay and Calcutta;

(b) the price per lb. of the imported silk yarn in December, 1950, January and February 1951; and

(c) whether it is a fact that it is not available to consumers at a fair price?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Government have received some complaints to this effect;

(b) The Bombay Market prices as supplied by the Yarn Merchants Association, Bombay are:

(1) December, 1950—Rs. 8/4/- to Rs. 9/6/- per lb.

(2) January, 1951—Rs. 8/2/- to Rs. 8/12/- per lb.

(3) February, 1951—Not available.

(c) All organised consumers including Associations of handloom weavers are allowed to obtain their requirements by direct import. To meet the requirements of other handloom weavers and Mills which are not members of recognised Associations licences are issued to Established Importers on condition that they will sell the goods to actual users only. It has been found that this scheme has not worked satisfactorily as the Established Importers are demanding very high price for art silk yarn. Government are now considering ways and means to make art silk yarn available to weavers at fair price.

IMPORT OF COTTON AND ART SILK YARN

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister of Commerce and Industry, during his recent visit to Madras, announced that import of cotton and art silk yarn would be allowed freely, with a view to relieving the acute shortage in the country;

(b) whether that announcement has been translated into action; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

COTTON YARN FOR MADRAS STATE

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the speech made by the Madras Industries Minister in the Madras Legislative Assembly on the 14th February 1951 regarding the announcement of the Minister of Commerce and Industry made in Madras about the quantities of cotton yarn to be made available to Madras State in January, February, March and April, 1951;

(b) if so, whether the Madras Minister's statement is correct, and whether the promised yarn has been released;

(c) whether reports of wide-spread unemployment and deaths from starvation among handloom weavers in Madras State have reached Government; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) It was stated that Madras will receive the following quotas of yarn during January to March 1951:

January 1951	..	17,000 bales
February ,,	..	18,801 bales
March ,,	..	19,037 bales
April ,,	...	22,500 bales

Actual receipts by Madras during these months were:

January	..	15,407 bales
February (Actual allocations made)		18,800 bales.

It is expected that allocations during March and April also will be to the extent promised.

(c) Yes. But it is not understood how the situation would so much deteriorate when the supply of yarn in January is larger than what it was in December by about 4,000 bales.

(d) Following steps have been taken to improve the supply position of yarn:

(i) Ban has been placed on the export of all counts of yarn.

(ii) 66,000 bales of USA cotton have been distributed to various spinning mills for manufacturing yarn for the handloom industry.

(iii) Mills have been directed to pack at least 87½ per cent. of their free yarn production during a month.

The four per cent. cut has been restored with regard to manufacture of yarn.

Yarn position has already shown definite improvement after these steps have been taken, and the availability of free yarn during the month of January 1951 has increased to 48,000 bales as compared to 39,000 bales during the month of December 1950. During the month of February it is expected to be 50,777 bales and during the month of March, 51,000 bales. In April 1951 further improvement is expected.

SCARCITY OF *Dhotis* AND *Saris*

Dr. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the scarcity of cloth and especially *dhotis* and *saris* has been brought to his notice?

(b) Is it a fact that most of the cloth and *dhotis* have gone underground and are available only in the blackmarket?

(c) Is it a fact that a pair of *dhotis* is not available for less than Rs. 23 per pair and that in some cases upto Rs. 30 are charged for the same?

(d) Is it a fact that the scarcity is being most acutely felt?

(e) Since a large percentage of our people wears only one garment, what steps do Government propose to take to meet the situation?

(f) Will Government be pleased to make a statement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (f). Dr. Deshmukh's questions have been covered by my statement.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: In view of the shortage of yarn in the States of Assam and Manipur, in spite of what is stated by the Government of India or by the Government of Assam, will the present quota of cloth and yarn allotted to Assam be increased?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already explained, it has been increased since January and the State is expected to receive the same quota as they got in 1948 by the end of April.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is it a fact that though a certain quota has been allotted to the Madras State, the mills are not supplying them properly and if so, what is the action taken by Government? Will they see that the allotted quota is supplied by the mills?

Shri Mahtab: That was the complaint made by the Madras Minister and effective steps have been taken to see that the allocation made upon mills are respected by the mills and that the allottees get their quota according to the direction.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: What are the measures proposed to be taken by Government, because so many methods have already failed? What is the 'effective' steps proposed to be taken now?

Shri Mahtab: 'Effective' steps are vigorous steps by the Government of India and the Government of Madras.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact, Sir, that under the existing art silk yarn import restrictions, the goods (that is the yarn) can be sold only to consumers, and has it been reported to Government that this yarn is sold in the open market?

Shri Mahtab: There is no control over art silk yarn. Only import licences are given and anybody is free to sell to anybody. That is not a commodity under control. Now we are considering whether control should not be extended to that commodity.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Bombay Yarn Merchants Association has fixed the maximum price at Rs. 8-6-0 per lb, while the actual import price is only Rs. 5-8-0 a lb?

Shri Mahtab: It is even less than Rs. 5-8-0: I think it is Rs. 4-4-0, or something like that. That is a fact; they are doing that, because the article is not a controlled commodity.

Shri Kamath: How much of the imported yarn has been sold to consumers and how much in the open market?

Shri Mahtab: That I cannot say. I can only say to whom licences have been given. I cannot say to whom the licensees have sold the article.

Shri Kamath: Has the hon. Minister's attention been drawn to the Madras Minister's statement in the Madras Assembly that for the month of January the number of bales received by the Madras State was only 15,164 bales, while the hon. Minister here says that the number of bales received was 15,407 bales. What is this discrepancy due to?

Shri Mahtab: There is no discrepancy.

Mr. Speaker: He is pointing out a discrepancy of a few hundred bales.

Shri Kamath: It is about 300 bales.

Shri Mahtab: That is now being enquired into. Three hundred bales will not make that much of difference as the hon. Member wants to suggest.

Shri Kamath: The answer given by the hon. Minister to my question about free import of art silk yarn was in the affirmative. Am I to understand that free imports are being allowed now, and if so, what are the steps that have been taken to so liberalise the import of art silk yarn and cotton yarn?

Shri Mahtab: I am really surprised at this question. It has been said that there is free import and I do not know how it can be further liberalised.

Shri Kamath: But has it been put on the O.G.L.?

Shri Mahtab: Sir, "free licensing" is a term which is understood by everybody. If my hon. friend has any influence with the traders I think he should persuade them to come and get licences.

Shri Kamath: My point has not been answered. Has it been put on the O.G.L. or is it meant that licences are issued freely?

Shri Mahtab: Licences are freely issued.

Shri Kamath: To anybody who applies?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, according to the rules.

Dr. Deshmukh: Since it was known to the hon. Minister or his Ministry that sufficient *dhotis* and *saris* were not being manufactured, may I know what steps were being taken to see that the situation that arose would not arise again?

Shri Mahtab: As I have already stated, I have got the figures of *Dhotis* and *Saris*. It will take much time of the House if I were to give them. But I have got the full figures to show the quantity of *dhotis* and *saris* manufactured in the course of the last four or five years. Now the production in January is really much higher than what it was in December or November. The step which has been taken will give the hon. Member and all his friends enough *dhotis* and *saris*. There is no doubt about it.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether the hon. Minister is sorry for the state of affairs that existed and what steps he is going to take so that a similar situation may not recur?

Mr. Speaker: He is repeating the same question.

Shri Mahtab: This is a question of calculation. In 1950 a new situation arose because of the export position about which nobody had got any idea. Here in India nobody thought that the export market would develop to such an extent. It was a question of calculation, and nobody can give a guarantee that all calculations at all times will be correct.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that the question of the manufacturing cost and the remunerative prices of mill-made *saris* and *dhotis* has been referred to the Tariff Board and, if so, what are the terms of reference and when is the report awaited?

Shri Mahtab: No, it has not been referred to the Tariff Board.

Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya: In view of the acute shortage of cloth—*dhotis* and *saris*—in the State of Uttar Pradesh, is the hon. Minister in a position to state whether the situation has improved since February?

Shri Mahtab: A few days ago I had a personal discussion with the hon. Mr. C. V. Gupta, the Supply Minister of U. P. and the position is improving.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I think I must either stop the discussion or allow each Member to put one question.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: The hon. Minister has stated that the allocation to Bihar had gone down from 68,000 bales to 6,000 bales. May I enquire if this was the proportionate reduction in all the States in the Union or was Bihar specially selected for this reduction?

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member gives some time to this he will find, and I will show him the figures how there was considerable accumulation in Bihar till about the middle of 1950. Then the supply was reduced accordingly, and the lowest point was reached

in December 1950. And now, in January 1951, Bihar has more than double that quantity, namely, fourteen thousand and odd bales.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar has reported to the Government of India, despite this steadily improved supply of cloth allocated to that State as reported just now by the hon. Minister, that the prices of cloth especially of *saris* and *dhotis* over there have gone up by about 300 per cent.?

Shri Mahtab: Even with regard to Bihar I had a personal discussion with the hon. Mr. Anugrahanarayan Sinha, the Supply Minister there and he is taking steps to see that the cloth which has been despatched to Bihar is distributed properly.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. As I see, more than a dozen and a half Members are anxious to put questions. I should have no objection to that, and time is not really the consideration. But what I feel is that the hon. Minister has read a long statement and has given answers collectively to six questions. It would better to my mind, if the time of the House is not to be spent away, to study these and then table further questions and further in the near future, hon. Members will get an opportunity during the course of the Budget discussions. From the few questions put in I was inclined to think that questions are put without either having properly grasped the information he has given—it is too much information to be digested.....

An Hon. Member: We have grasped it very well.

Mr. Speaker: That is the opinion of the hon. Member. But mine is not an interested opinion, mine is an absolutely detached opinion about it. If it is the idea of hon. Members to put in questions I will have no objection...

Shri Sondhi: Will the statement be circulated to all Members?

Shri Mahtab: I have laid it on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: Well, if the hon. Members so like, the questions along with the answers can be circulated to Members. That will be a better way of putting questions after studying the whole thing than putting questions at this stage.

Shri Kamath: Along with the supplementary questions put and answered.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the whole thing, with whatever supplementaries have been put in along with the answers to them might be circulated. Then, if they think that there is anything urgent on which further information is required they may table questions. And if they think that any further discussion is necessary, there is the Budget discussion coming on.

An Hon. Member: There is also the half an hour time.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know whether, within half an hour, this can be done. I think I must close it now.

Shri Ramalingam Chettiar: In respect of some of the matters stated by the hon. Minister, if an opportunity is given to me I will put two or three questions. Otherwise I am not very keen.

Mr. Speaker: I think the best course will be that these may be circulated and hon. Members may table any further questions they want to.

Dr. Deshmukh: There should be an extra day for this during the General Discussion of the Budget.

Mr. Speaker: It depends upon the agreement and wish of the hon. Members. If they want an extra day, which means not an additional day but one more day from those allotted for the general discussion, it is for them to decide. I should have no objection to that. But perhaps after going through the statement and other things they might change their mind!

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Evacuee Property in Delhi

*1979. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses and shops registered as evacuee property in the State of Delhi so far:

(b) how many of these have been taken possession of by Government and allotted to displaced persons;

(c) the number of displaced families which have been accommodated in these houses; and

(d) the amount of rent collected so far and the amount of arrears?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The number of houses and shops registered as evacuee property in the State of Delhi so far is 33,526 (31,493 in urban and 2,033 in rural areas).

(b) All properties mentioned at (a) vest in the Custodian and are deemed to be in constructive possession of the

Custodian. The majority of them are in possession of displaced persons.

(c) The number of displaced families accommodated in these premises is 31,434—29,784 in urban and 1,650 in rural areas.

(d) The amount of rent collected is Rs. 51,89,913. Although the exact amount of arrears cannot be accurately determined, it may be stated that the approximate assessment of evacuee property rent is now about Rs. 4 lakhs per month. The total amount of assessment should therefore be about a crore and a half, if all recoveries could be made.

ALLOTMENT OF EVACUEE'S PLOTS IN DELHI

*1980. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plots of land meant for residential and business purposes left behind by evacuees in the State of Delhi;

(b) how many of them have been allotted to displaced persons and how many are lying vacant; and

(c) whether Government propose to build on same?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The number of evacuee residential and business plots of land in Delhi (including Shahdara) are as under:

Residential	..	405
Business	..	69
	..	
Total		474
(b) Allotted.	..	69
Occupied by displaced persons but not regularised by allotment.		212
Still subject of enquiry	..	24
Vacant	.. .. ..	169

(c) Yes, except those which are considered unsuitable.

हाथ का बना कागज

*१९९५. श्री जांगड़े : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) घरेलू उद्योग धन्धों द्वारा निर्मित हाथ से बने कितने कागज का सरकारी कार्यों में प्रयोग करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा १९५० के वर्ष में क्रय किया गया है ?

(ख) क्या हाथ से बने कागज को विदेशों में भी प्रदर्शन के लिए रखा जाता है ?

HAND-MADE PAPER

[*1995. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of hand-made paper produced by the cottage industries, that was purchased by Government for Government work during the year 1950; and

(b) whether this hand-made paper is exhibited in foreign countries also?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

सरकार द्वारा खादी का क्रय

*१९९६. श्री जांगड़े : वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खादी की बिक्री गत तीन वर्षों से मन्द पड़ती जा रही है तथा बहुत से खादी भंडारों में ऐसा कपड़ा बिक्री न होने के कारण बेकार पड़ा है, तथा

(ख) क्या सरकार इस उद्योग को प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से स्वयं खादी को खरीद रही है ?

PURCHASE OF *Khadi* CLOTH BY GOVERNMENT

[*1996. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of *Khadi* cloth has been going down for the last three years and cloth is lying unsold in many Khadi Bhandars; and

(b) whether the Government are themselves purchasing *Khadi* to encourage the industry?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Government have no information as there is no control on distribution of *Khadi*.

(b) Yes. The Government of India decided in 1949 to purchase 1/3rd of their requirements in the shape of handloom cloth including *Khadi*.

पैट्रोमैक्स, पिनों का आयात

*१९९७. श्री जांगड़े : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत सरकार ने पैट्रोमैक्स, पिनों, सीने की मशीनों तथा सुइयों का किन किन देशों से आयात किया है ;

(ख) उक्त वस्तुओं का योग मूल्य क्या है; तथा

(ग) क्या इन वस्तुओं को भारत में भी बनाया जाता है, तथा, यदि बनाया जाता है, तो किन किन स्थानों पर ?

IMPORT OF PETROMAX, PINS

[*1997. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) from what countries the Government of India have imported petromax, pins, sewing machines and needles:

(b) their total cost; and

(c) whether these articles are being manufactured in India and if so, where?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Information regarding the countries from where petromax, pins, and needles are imported is not readily available. Sewing machines are mainly imported from U.K., Sweden, Western Germany, Czechoslovakia, Japan and U.S.A.

(b) The cost of sewing machines imported in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and the nine months April to December, 1950 was Rs. 1,09,90,599, Rs. 1,03,04,398 and Rs. 42,46,837 respectively.

(c) Petromax lamps, pins, sewing machines and gramophone needles are manufactured in India. Hand sewing needles are not manufactured in the country but machinery for the manufacture thereof is being imported and production is likely to start early in 1952. Petromax lamps are manufactured in Bombay and Calcutta; pins in Jamnagar and Bombay; sewing machines in Calcutta and gramaphone needles in Kotagiri in Nilgiris.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES

*1998. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state how far the agricultural wages vary from State to State for ploughing, sowing and weeding wheat, paddy, sugar-cane and oil-seeds?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): A statement showing the prevailing average rates of wages for ploughing, sowing and weeding separately for men, women and children, in the various States, as gathered from the General Village Survey, which is the first stage of the All-India Agricultural Labour Enquiry, which is being conducted in about 813 villages selected on the basis of stratified random sampling, is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 26.]

In the General Village Survey information was collected on the prevalent rates of wages for each agricultural operation in every village. Where wages were paid in kind, these were evaluated in cash at prevalent prices. Perquisites allowed, if any, were also evaluated and included. The average wage rates were obtained by "weighting" the wage rates by the number of wage quotations for each type of wage payment viz., cash with perquisites, cash without perquisites, kind with perquisites and kind without perquisites. It is not possible at present to furnish wage rates for the three operations specified by the hon. Member according to different crops.

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY

*1999. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state what has been the total expenditure incurred so far in connection with the installation of the Government owned Machine Tool Factory?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): Rs. 2,000-1-0.

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY GROUP

*2000. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been invited to join the International Commodity Group to tackle the problem of scarcity materials:

(b) if so, whether Government would accept the invitation;

(c) what are the principal objects of this Group and in what way Government feel that it would be to their benefit, by joining this Group; and

(d) what are the various articles of scarcity with which this Board is to deal?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has accepted invitation to join two groups, viz., Group 'C'—Manganese/Nickel/Cobalt and Group 'E'—Cotton and Cotton Linters.

(c) The functions of these Commodity Groups are to examine availabilities in the International field and to recommend to Governments the specific action which should be taken to expand production of the commodities, increase availabilities, conserve supplies and ensure their most effective distribution and utilisation among the consuming countries. As India has to import most of the items covered by the Commodity Groups and as allocations will be made on the basis of production and consumption, the joining of these Groups would be to her advantage.

(d) The Groups will deal with

(A) Copper/Zinc/Lead,

(B) Tungsten/Molybdenum.

(C) Manganese/Nickel/Cobalt,

(D) Wool,

(E) Cotton and Cotton Linters, and

(F) Sulphur.

VISIT OF FRENCH ECONOMIC MISSION

*2001. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the French Economic Mission has recently visited Delhi headed by M. De Saithy;

(b) if so, what are the subjects to be discussed with this mission;

(c) whether there is a programme for this Mission to visit different places; and

(d) who are the personnel of this Mission?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir. The Mission is headed by Monsieur De Sailly.

(b) Development of trade and industrial collaboration between India and France.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A list of members of the Mission is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 27.]

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

*2002. **Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent on housing displaced persons; and

(b) the amount so far spent on supply of free rations to such persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Housing of displaced persons proceeded in many stages, first in tents and barracks, then in mud huts and finally in pucca constructions. It is not possible to separate the expenditure under various heads without spending considerable time and labour but expenditure on pucca houses alone is Rs. 18·87 crores.

(b) The expenditure on the supply of free rations is inseparably mixed up with the relief expenditure. It will not be possible to give this figure without spending considerable time and labour which will not be commensurate with the results obtained.

PAINT FACTORY NEAR CALCUTTA

*2003. **Shri Himatsingka:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., have been permitted to establish a paint factory in the vicinity of Calcutta;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that this has been done against the wishes of the Industry; and

(c) what were the considerations which weighed with Government for not accepting the recommendations of the Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) M/s. Alkali and Chemical Corporation of India Ltd., which is a subsidiary concern of the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd., wanted to establish production of Nitro Cellulose Lacquers and synthetic finishes. Government agreed to this extension of their manufacturing activities.

(b) and (c). The Indian Paint Manufacturers Association represented to Government that as Indian production was adequate to meet internal demand, no foreign firm should be allowed to establish new paint factories. Nitro Cellulose Lacquers and synthetic finishes of specialised nature are, however, not manufactured in India in sufficient quantity and of the quality required by the consuming industries, and important and growing industries like automobiles, bicycles, coach building and aircraft construction have to depend to a large extent on imports for their requirements. It was accordingly decided to encourage the establishment of this capacity. Moreover, as general purposes paint materials will not be produced by this firm, the question of any competition with the Indian manufacturers does not arise.

CLOTH EXPORT QUOTA

*2004. **Shri Himatsingka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an export quota of only 400 million yards of cloth has been fixed for the January-June 1951 period?

(b) Does the above quota include exports of coarse and medium cloth also?

(c) Is it a fact that before announcing the quota, Government allowed business to be done and applications were entertained in the Office of the Deputy Chief Controller of Exports, Bombay, to the extent of about 1000 million yards of cloth?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, will the curtailment of the quota now result in the cancellation of foreign business?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Government are taking steps to restrict export to 400 million yards of cloth only for the period January—June 1951.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. But it was found in December that mills and exporters were abusing the pre-licensing concessions in regard to fine and superfine cloth by exporting a hybrid type of cloth the weft of which was really of coarse and medium counts.

(d) The question of accommodating the licences issued in the best manner possible is under examination.

COTTON TEXTILES AND YARN (PRICES)

*2005. **Shri Himatsingka:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had assured the Cotton Textiles Industry that the prices of cotton textiles and yarn would be revised on 1st January, 1951;

(b) whether such a revision was made on the 1st January and if not, why not;

(c) whether the prices of cotton textiles and yarn were revised on the 20th January, 1951;

(d) whether the Tariff Board had laid down a formula in respect of revision of prices, if so, whether the formula was followed while fixing the prices of coarse and medium cloth and if not, why not;

(e) whether Government have subsequently effected a further revision of prices with effect from 1st February, 1951;

(f) whether the prices fixed cover the increased cost of raw materials and manufacturing charges;

(g) whether the Industry has made any representation to Government in respect of the prices fixed; and

(h) what action Government propose to take on the representation of the Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No such assurance was given.

(b) and (c). The prices of cloth and yarn were revised with effect from the 1st January, 1951. The revision of prices, however, was announced on the 20th January, 1951.

(d) The Tariff Board have laid down a formula in respect of prices of cloth and yarn and this formula was followed in fixing the prices of all types of cloth.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir.

(g) No representation has so far been received.

(h) Does not arise.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR M.PS.

*2006. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage the construction of M.Ps flats is at present;

(b) whether any flats are ready by now; and

(c) whether they will be allotted to M. Ps. for accommodation during the current session?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Construction work on the first 100 flats has already been started and 4 flats have been structurally completed, but the finishing work remains to be done. The remaining flats have been completed up to plinth level. Work on further 150 flats has just been taken in hand and foundations are being excavated.

(b) No; not ready for occupation.

(c) No. The flats are not expected to be ready, available for allotment during the current session.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN BIHAR

*2007. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons both from the West and East Pakistan who have gone to the State of Bihar;

(b) how many of them have been rehabilitated so far;

(c) what part of expenditure is met from the Central Exchequer; and

(d) whether any more displaced persons are to be sent to that State?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 63,000 approximately.

(b) About 22,000.

(c) The Centre is bearing the entire expenditure on the rehabilitation of displaced persons with the exception of expenditure on headquarters staff and losses on loans to displaced persons who were sent to Bihar before 1st January, 1950, which are to be borne in the ratio of 50:50 between the Centre and the State.

(d) This will depend upon the progress of rehabilitation in Bihar.

SHOPS IN KAMLA MARKET

*2009. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Kamla Market, being built outside Ajmere Gate, is meant for those *bona fide* displaced persons, who are already running some business at Delhi, but have not been allotted any business accommodation so far?

(b) If so, why are some shops in the Kamla Market being sold out in open auction?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The shops in Kamla Market are intended for allotment to the displaced traders evicted from Khari Baoli last year who have not been allotted any business accommodation so far. If any shops are left unallotted, the case of other displaced persons will be considered.

(b) No shops are being sold in the Kamla Market.

YARN FOR HYDERABAD

*2010. **Shri K. Vaidya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what was the quota of yarn fixed by the Government of India for the State of Hyderabad in 1948 and whether it has been reduced later? If so, when and to what extent?

(b) Are the Government of India aware that about 75 per cent. of the handlooms in the State of Hyderabad are lying idle for want of yarn?

(c) Have the Government of Hyderabad approached the Government of India for increasing the quota of yarn?

(d) If so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) In November, 1948 the yarn quota of Hyderabad State was fixed at 3,865 bales per month. Running allocations were issued on mills to enable Hyderabad State to get full supplies against their monthly quota. Due to considerable fall in the production of free yarn by mills during 1950 these running allocations have been revised with effect from the 1st February, 1951 so as to bring them in conformity with the present production of free yarn by mills and to enable equitable distribution among the States of the supplies of yarn available for internal consumption. These revised allocations cover 68 per cent. of the yarn quotas to each State fixed in November, 1948, and in the case of Hyderabad State they cover 2,668 bales per month.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Textile Commissioner, Hyderabad, approached the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, in January, 1951, requesting that yarn quota of Hyderabad be increased. In February, 1951, he had also asked for an *ad hoc* supply of 1,000 bales of yarn.

(d) As the running allocations on mills for the supply of yarn to the various States were revised with effect from 1st February, 1951, to enable each State to receive an equitable share out of supplies available, it was not possible either to increase the running allocations in favour of Hyderabad State over and above the 68 per cent. of the quota or to make substantial *ad hoc* supplies to the State. During September to December 1950 deliveries of yarn to Hyderabad State amounted to 2,164 bales per month which formed 56 per cent. of its quota, while supplies of yarn available for internal consumption during this period amounted to not more than 44 per cent. of the aggregate quotas of the States.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

*2011. **Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of meetings held so far of the All India Cottage Industries Board and the expenditure incurred on each Conference?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Three meetings of the Cottage Industries Board have so far been held. The expenditure incurred in respect of each of the meetings is given below:

1st meeting	—	Rs. 11,205-0-0
2nd meeting	—	Rs. 3,295-3-0
3rd meeting	—	Rs. 7,457-6-0

INDEXING OF CLAIMS OF DISPLACED PERSONS' PROPERTY SHEETS

*2012. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an unexpected receipt of applications for claims of displaced persons' property and the work of indexing these property sheets in office has become unusually heavy; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure prompt disposal and to avoid unnecessary delay in dealing with their claims?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) The staff has been doubled. It is expected that the indexing of the claims will be completed during May, 1951.

DISEASES AMONG FACTORY LABOURERS

*2013. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research work is carried on in factories to investigate the causes of various diseases that are generally prevalent among the labourers; and

(b) if so, whether the findings of these Research Officers have helped Government and the Factories to improve the health of the labourers?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes. Research and investigations on certain problems relating to health, welfare and safety of workers and on industrial hygiene problems have been and are being carried out under the auspices of the Indian Medical Research Council and by the organisation of the Chief Adviser Factories.

(b) Research and investigation work into these problems was initiated only about 4 years back and at present enquiries are limited in their scope and are intended for the purpose of making an appraisal of the general conditions in factrories relating to certain problems as affecting the health, welfare and safety of workers. The provisions under the new Factories Act are very comprehensive and adequately cover the measures to be taken to safeguard the health, welfare and safety of the workers. In framing the Act we have drawn freely upon the experience of the industrially advanced countries and the work done on occupational diseases and problems of industrial hygiene. The scope of the surveys that are at present being carried out here will, in course of time, be widened so as to cover investigations into problems which are peculiar to India and of particular importance to industries in the country.

RAYON SILK

*2014. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that the Rayon Silk imported from France for spinning yarn emits a most obnoxious smell quite injurious to the health of the Labourers?

(b) Has any report from the Research Officers from Madras State been received to this effect?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) In a report on the Inquiry into the Prevalence of Byssiniosis in the Cotton Textile Industry in South India carried out under the auspices of the Indian Medical Research Council, mention has been made by the Research Officer that certain complaints of ill-effects as a result of the work on the Rayon were made by workers of the Rayon Section. The Research Officer suggested that this might be due to the presence of free Sulphuric Acid. A sample which was received by the Office of the Chief Adviser Factories was examined, but did not give any evidence of the presence of free Sulphuric Acid. The matter has been referred by the Chief Adviser Factories to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Madras for a more detailed and thorough investigation and results are awaited.

(b) The only reference received was from the Research Officer who was conducting the Inquiry under the auspices of the Indian Medical Research Council.

ALLOTMENT OF YARN TO MADRAS

*2015. **Shri Venkataraman:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the editorial in *The Hindu* dated 21st February, 1951 reporting cases of starvation deaths and suicides by the Handloom weavers in Madras State;

(b) whether the hon. Minister, during his recent visit to Madras, had promised certain allotment of yarn to Madras for January, February and March, 1951;

(c) what allotment of yarn was made for the months of January and February, 1951; and

(d) what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) 17,451 bales of yarn were allotted to Madras in January, 1951 and 18,801 bales in February, 1951. The actual offers made by the mills in January, were, however, for 15,407 bales.

(d) The Government of India have taken the following steps to meet the situation:

(1) Export of yarn has been totally banned with effect from 4-1-1951.

(2) Prices of yarn have been revised with effect from February, 1951. This would induce the spinning and composite mills to increase their production of free yarn.

(3) (i) Provision has been made for the import of yarn of counts 80s and 100s to the tune of Rs. 65 lakhs during the first half of 1951; and

(ii) 66,000 bales of American cotton have been supplied to the spinning mills at subsidised rates for production of yarn for the handloom industry.

(4) Mills have been directed to pack not less than 87½ per cent. of monthly production of yarn for sale in India.

(5) So far as the month of February is concerned, full quota of yarn, as agreed upon, *viz.* 18,801 bales is being given to Madras.

YARN

*2016. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Civil Supplies Commissioner of Madhya Pradesh has recently approached the Government of India to get the yarn quota to that State increased; and

(b) if so, how much quota of yarn has been increased for Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No such reference was received from the Civil Supplies Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh, but the hon. Food Minister of that State had approached the Government of India for an increase in their yarn quota, although increasing supply is being made from month to month.

(b) It has not been possible to increase the yarn quota of Madhya Pradesh having regard to the general shortage of yarn. It is, however, expected that the yarn supply position will improve by the beginning of April, 1951, when it may be possible to increase yarn supplies to all the States.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

*2017. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to paragraph B(vi) of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950 and state:

(a) whether a Trustee Committee will be formed in Bihar to take charge of the immovable properties of migrants who have left Bihar for East Bengal.

(b) whether any computation has been made of the number of such migrants and of the properties left by them;

(c) whether any Bihar migrant has sent any representation to Government for having his property managed by the Trustee Committee that may be formed; and

(d) whether any case has come to the notice of Government in which the property of the migrant has been left undisposed of or has been in unauthorised occupation and is in need of being taken care of?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). Exact information has been called for from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it becomes available.

MINIMUM WAGES OF LABOURERS IN GLASS FACTORIES

*2018. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what is the minimum wages of labourers in glass factories in India?

(b) Is it a fact that the minimum wages fixed by the Madhya Pradesh Government are higher than in the glass factories of other States?

(c) Is it a fact that owing to these high rates of wages in Madhya Pradesh, the glass factory owners are retrenching both the skilled and unskilled labour?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take to enforce uniform minimum rates of wages to labourers in all the States?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). Information asked for can be had only from the State Government. It is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(d) The Minimum Wages Act does not contemplate uniform rates of wages throughout the country. On the other hand, it recognises that there may be variations even in different regions within the same State.

If, however, there is very great diversity, such cases could be discussed at the Central Advisory Board. This will be considered after the factual data is obtained.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

124. **Shri Meeran:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there is any allocation of foreign exchange for the import of commodities placed on the O.G.L. list in the current year?

(b) What is the amount of the foreign exchange so far consumed for the import of Penicillin and Prime-movers?

(c) What is the approximate amount of foreign exchange earmarked for the import of drugs?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) Prime-movers worth Rs. 12,30,58,000 have been imported into India during the year 1950. As Penicillin is not specifically shown in the Foreign Sea and Air Borne Trade Account of India, it is regretted that the figures regarding actual imports cannot be supplied.

(c) Rs. eight crores have been allotted for import of drugs from foreign countries for the half yearly period January—June 1951.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 9th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

IMPORT OF MILK POWDER

***2019. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity of Milk powder imported into India during the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950, each year separately?

(b) Is this milk powder sold by State Governments at profitable price to consumers?

(c) What profit is made by State and Central Governments in this respect?

(d) What is the cost of imported milk powder in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement showing the quantities of milk powder imported into India during 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950, as recorded in the Sea-borne Trade Accounts, is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 28.]

(b) and (c). Except in the case of Bombay, milk powder was imported on private account and sold through normal trade channels in the open market. In Bombay certain quantities of milk powder are sold by the State Government as a part of the Milk Supply Scheme for Bombay. Figures of milk powder imported by the Government of Bombay or taken over from licence holders are not readily available. The Government of Bombay have, it is understood, fixed the sale price of milk powder in relation to the

Milk Supply Scheme so as to reduce the losses as far as possible over the scheme as a whole.

(d) A statement showing the cost of milk powder landed in India is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 28.]

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the price fixed by the Government of Bombay is just to cover the loss that is sustained in the big Milk Supply Scheme for Bombay. May I know whether they have made any profits last year or in any earlier year or whether they have undergone a loss in the import of milk powder?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have already stated that the Bombay Government have made a considerable profit in this milk powder business.

Shri Sidhva: You did not say that.

Shri K. M. Munshi: The profits made are as follows:

	Rs.
1946-47 ..	23,20,750
1947-48 ..	26,63,991
1948-49 ..	22,69,041
1949-50 ..	44,80,272
TOTAL	1,17,34,054

Shri Sidhva: Out of the total imports amounting to Rs. 1,82,11,308 in 1950, may I know how much was imported by other States than Bombay? Or can he give the figure of import for Bombay?

Shri K. M. Munshi: You mean imported in point of quantity?

Shri Sidhva: Quantity as well as price, if you have got the information.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got the figures here.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the customs duty is paid on this by the Bombay Government or is it free?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am not aware of it. I would like to have notice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the other importers have to pay customs duty and whether the Bombay Government are exempt?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice.

Shri Sidhva: What is the landed price per ton of this imported milk powder?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The landed cost ranges from ten annas to twelve annas per pound.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that one of the Ministers of the Bombay Government during discussion in the State Assembly admitted that last year they made as much as Rs. 65 lakhs of profit?

Shri K. M. Munshi: My figure for 1949-50 shows that they made a profit of Rs. 44 lakhs.

Shri Sondhi: In view of the large profits made, will the Government take up the question with the Bombay Government that they should not profiteer on it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Bombay Government's case is that they have spent over Rs. 2 crores for improving the Bombay Milk Supply and that this amount is applied towards that scheme.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the Government be pleased to state what was the total investment of the Bombay Government which brought to them a net profit of Rs. 44 lakhs last year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There cannot be investment because the milk powder is brought in and sold.

Mr. Speaker: Both the question and the answer do not arise.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: By investment I mean that the Government of Bombay may have had to pay for buying the milk in the first instance.

Mr. Speaker: The reply given is that as they purchase, they sell. It is a small investment.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that an Indian firm called National Nutriments Ltd. has got two factories, one at Dum-Dum, the other at Banaras, manufacturing milk powder, and what steps have Government taken to cut down imports by purchasing from these Indian factories?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no information with me here. If the hon. Member puts a separate question I will have enquiries made.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I know what was the total turnover during 1949-50 on which a profit of Rs. 44 lakhs was made?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Unfortunately I have got here the total quantities for the whole of India and not separately.

लाला अचित राम : क्या गवर्नमेंट ने हिन्दुस्तान में मिल्क पाऊडर पैदा करने की स्कीम पर ग़ौर किया है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Have the Government considered any scheme for the manufacture of milk powder in India?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice of it.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether apart from the Government of Bombay any other State Government is doing business on profit like this?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No, Sir.

LONG-RANGE RADIO-TELEPHONE SYSTEM

*2020. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Nations International Civil Aviation Organisation is planning to have a long-range radio-telephone system for use by commercial air liners in the Middle East; and

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the Flight Information and Rescue Coordination Centres of that organization will be in Bombay?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Recommendations to this effect have been made at a recent Regional Meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization. The necessary facilities are to be provided by the States concerned, not by the Organisation.

(b) A Flight Information Centre and a Rescue Coordination Centre, as recommended by the International Civil Aviation Organisation, exist at Bombay. These Centres have been established by the Civil Aviation Department of the Government of India.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the estimated cost of establishing that Flight Information Centre and Rescue Coordination Centre at Bombay?

Shri Kidwai: They have been in existence for long—they have not been recently established on account of that recommendation.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: When was that Centre established in Bombay?

Shri Kidwai: It was one of the schemes implemented when civil aviation was started. It existed at several places in India and not at Bombay only.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the cost of establishing that Centre was fully borne by the U.N.O. or by the Government of India?

Shri Kidwai: It was borne by the Government of India. Every country provides such centres in its area.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: At which other stations do such Centres exist?

Shri Kidwai: Delhi and Calcutta.

RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CUTTACK

*2021. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the research results obtained in 'Rice Research Institute, Cuttack' in 1950;

(b) nutritional value of raw rice and parboiled rice, and their vitamin contents;

(c) the methods evolved, if any, for increasing the crop yield; and

(d) the machinery adopted by Government for propagating the result in the rural area?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 29].

(b) Research in this direction has not been done at the Central Rice Research Institute but work done elsewhere in India has established that raw rice, milled and polished, is less nutritious than parboiled rice. Some recent preliminary studies have shown that the vitamin B.1 contents vary from 2·0 to 4·5 micrograms per gram in the unpolished state while in the commercial parboiled and raw rice the figures are roughly 2·1 and 1 respectively.

(c) The methods advocated are (i) judicious application of fertilisers and manures; (ii) growing of improved varieties; and (iii) transplanting the crop instead of direct sowing wherever conditions permit.

(d) Such of the results, as are of practical value and are capable of adoption by the cultivators are demonstrated at the intensive cultivation centre started from this year under the direct charge of the Institute, comprising 4,000 acres in 21 villages within a radious of seven miles from the Institute.

The State Governments also distribute improved seed, manures, implements, etc. and carry out demonstrations of improved methods on cultivator's fields.

Shri Barman: With reference to the answer to part (b) of the question, what active steps have Government taken to increase the use of parboiled rice in this country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is only done by propaganda so far..

Shri Barman: Has there been any experiment undertaken so far in the Cuttack Research Institute with the immediate object of enhancing the acreage yield?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I pointed out, under the intensive cultivation scheme the Institute has been supervising the production of rice by approved methods in 4,000 acres near the Institute. There is also another attempt made at a demonstration cultivation of a second crop of rice between January and April in an area of 200 acres at this intensive cultivation centre.

Shri Barman: My question is specific. Did the Institute undertake any extension work in a particular area, say, fifty acres, in Cuttack under this intensive cultivation scheme in 1948-49 and if so, what is the result of that scheme in 1950-51?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know what happened in 1948-49, but I know that the present scheme converts an area of 4,000 acres into a kind of demonstration farm and out of this 200 acres are set apart for double cropping.

Shri Barman: What is the service personnel employed in that experimental farm and from what class of society have the lowest grades of the service personnel been drawn?

Shri K. M. Munshi: If the hon. Member would give me notice, I shall ascertain.

Shri Barman: After ascertaining, will he circulate the information?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if the Rice Research Institute at Cuttack cultivated some Chinese variety of paddy during the last two years, and if so, what were the results?

Shri Sondhi: The Mao Tse Tung variety?

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Red variety.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think the Chinese variety is being experimented upon.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether any experiment has been made by which three or four crops can be grown in a year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The only experiment that we are trying is two crops a year. If we succeed in that, it will be a great achievement.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : गत वर्ष यानी सन् १९५० की साल में कितने अनुसन्धानों का फल किसानों के पास पहुंचाया गया है ?

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is the number of research experiments the results of which have been communicated to the cultivators during the last year, *i.e.*, in 1950?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I said, the results of research are contained in the statement which I placed on the Table.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मेरे पूछने का मतलब है कि कितने अनुसन्धानों का नतीजा किसानों के पास पहुंचाया गया है । टेबिल पर रखने का सवाल नहीं है ।

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is mean to ask is as to what was the number of the research experiments the results of which have been communicated to the cultivators. This is no question of placing the information on the Table.]

Shri K. M. Munshi: Extension work is going on on a large scale in most of the States which are growing rice and apart from the agricultural staff we do this work through the several Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Departments. Then there are various non-official organisations like the Land Development scheme in Madras, the Sarvodaya Scheme in Bombay, the Pilot Project in Gorakhpur, the Gram Panchayat in Bihar and Village Improvement Scheme in Delhi.

Acreage Statistics

*2022. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to ensure accuracy of acreage statistics;

(b) what method is adopted in areas where the *Patwari* system does not exist or where the Permanent system obtains;

(c) how the mixed crop area is assessed;

(d) how many millions of acreage of former "Indian States" are yet unclassified; and

(e) what method is being adopted to find out the food crop acreage in those areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The acreage statistics in the temporarily settled areas are fairly accurate. In other areas, steps are taken to set up a special reporting agency or to undertake Sample Surveys. The Crop Surveys undertaken by the I.C.A.R. also provide for a supervisory check.

(b) Of the permanently settled areas, Bihar has now set up an elaborate reporting agency for complete enumeration, while Orissa and West Bengal are carrying out random sample surveys of the acreage under different crops. The other areas included in this category are either non-reporting or give figures on the basis of Chowkidars' reports.

(c) Two methods are in vogue *viz.* either (i) assessment of the gross area under the mixtures and allocation thereof between the component crops by applying certain fixed ratios; or (ii) eye-appraisal by the *patwaris* of the area under different crops in the mixed fields at the time of inspection.

(d) About 164·2 million acres.

(e) Estimates are framed on the basis of the returns submitted by the district officials.

Shri Barman: By what percentage will the estimated acreage and the eye estimates now collected are likely to vary in the light of the defects that exist at present?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Where crop cutting experiments are taking place, there has been a variation of about 15 per cent. either way from the eye estimate.

Shri Barman: What sort of methods do Government propose to resort to in order to have some accurate estimate of our acreage for new crops in the States that have been hitherto unclassified?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have already said, Bihar has already created an organisation for the purpose. So have Orissa and West Bengal done. Similar plans for crop cutting surveys are also being formulated in two major States, Rajasthan and Travancore-Cochin. This forms part of the five years co-ordinated scheme of crop cutting

experiments being conducted by the I.C.A.R.

Shri Barman: What about the other States which form a large part of India?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have already said that we have 164·2 million acres still to be classified. It cannot be done in two years time.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any non-reporting States are still existing and if so what is the acreage of the non-reporting area? What was the unclassified area before last year and what is it today?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Before 1947-48 agricultural statistics were available for 580 million acres out of a total of 801 million acres. That left an area of 221 million acres which were not classified. Out of this unclassified area, we have now only 164·2 million acres to be classified and out of this figure 49·89 million acres are in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the percentage of accuracy of acreage statistics that has been attained as a result of the steps taken by the Ministry recently?

Mr. Speaker: I think he has already answered it—that there is a margin of 15 per cent. either way.

Shri K. M. Munshi: In some cases eye estimates are more; in some cases eye estimates are less than the results of the surveys.

Shri Satish Chandra: Am I to understand the hon. Minister as saying that acreage of crops can be determined by crop cutting experiments and random sampling method? The question related to area and not to yield of crops.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Nobody suggests that. As to how much crop is under what crop is a matter of assessment.

Shri Poonacha: May I know what total acreage was under main food crops for the last three years?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think a statement was placed on the Table on one of the earlier days. I have not got it here.

Subsidiary Feeds for Cattle

*2023. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of 'subsidiary feeds' for cattle from hitherto untapped sources has been recommended by the Animal Nutrition Committee of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to popularise such subsidiary feeds?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes, the Committee has recommended a number of subsidiary feeds, such as Mangoseed Kernel and Jaman seed etc. which can be fed, after due processing to adult animals in famine and drought areas.

(b) A proposal for seting up a pilot station around Jabalpur to work out the economics of processing such 'subsidiary' feeds on a commercial basis is under the consideration of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and details of the scheme are being worked out. In the meantime the results of the researches done at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute are being pictorially exhibited at the Cattle shows in the country. These results were pictorially exhibited at Jaipur also on the occasion of the last session of the Indian National Congress in that city.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know if any of these subsidiary feeds are also imported from abroad?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think so: I have no information on that.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know if Government have made any arrangements for their production in any appreciable quantities?

Shri K. M. Munshi: These foods which I have referred to are already there and about 37 million maunds can be used every year for feeding cattle. No steps have yet been taken for the purpose of expanding their production. But they have to be processed and that is why the research stations have been set up.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know if any diversion of human food may also be needed for this purpose?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know whether any diversion of human food is necessary. But I know that cattle are being fed with human food by some people in this country.

Shri Sondhi: What are the financial implications of this new experiment?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would require notice of that question.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to Prof. Mishra's question the hon. Minister stated that some edible grain is consumed by cattle. Is there any figure

of the quantity of edible grain at present consumed by cattle?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No figures are available, unfortunately.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact, Sir, that mango seeds can be used for human consumption also and if that is a fact what portion will be reserved for human consumption and what will be available for animals?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether mango seed is used for feeding cattle in Government dairy farms?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is not used now. This is in a stage of experiment and research.

Shri Sondhi: In view of our having lost Rs. 3½ lakhs on subsidiary food for human beings, will Government take jolly good care to see that another loss of same kind does not take place?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. M. Munshi: Government have all along been taking care.

Shri V. J. Gupta: Is it a fact that Government are considering a scheme to ration fodder to the animals?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know of any such scheme.

DELHI SAFETY FIRST ASSOCIATION

*2025. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Safety First Association offered help to Government in the training of traffic police men; and

(b) what type of training is given to the Delhi Police for traffic control at present?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Some of the members of the Association at its last annual meeting, while discussing ways and means to improve traffic control in Delhi, stated that they had some experience of traffic control in Bombay and certain foreign capital cities and offered to assist the Delhi Police authorities in the training of traffic constables.

(b) Police constables selected for traffic control are given an extra course of six weeks in addition to nine months training given to all police constables. During this extra course of six weeks, besides practical training, they are given training in motor transport, traffic law, general knowledge about motor vehicles and topography of Delhi, at the Traffic Training School in Delhi Police Lines.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether this training is imparted by the Safety First Association?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. It is done by the authorities of the Traffic Training School in Delhi Police Lines?

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the traffic control system in Delhi is in any way similar to the system obtaining in Bombay, Madras or Calcutta?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think there is any difference. The general rules are the same.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know, Sir, whether there were any accidents during the past few years in which the D.T.S. vehicles were involved, and if so, how many?

Shri Santhanam: I have no information on that: nor do I think it arises out of this question.

Shri Sidhva: Is it a fact that the Passengers' Association have made a representation to Government that the Delhi Police are not trained in traffic control properly and that they must obtain the services of some persons from Bombay? If that is so, have Government taken any steps in this direction?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think the Safety First Association has made any such offensive remarks. They made an offer to place their services at the disposal of Government. But it was found that whatever training they could give was being imparted at the Traffic Training School.

Shri Sidhva: My question was not understood by the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: I do not propose to allow any further cross-examination.

Shri Sidhva *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be his reply is there.

Shri Shiva Rao: Has my hon. friend drawn the attention of the Defence Ministry to the fact that military truck drivers are the worst offenders in regard to traffic control regulations?

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member is giving information.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether in the cities of Bombay, Madras and Calcutta it was the Safety First Association which gave training to the traffic police in regulating traffic?

Shri Santhanam: I am not aware of it, Sir.

DUAL-PURPOSE COW

*2026. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments for evolving a dual-purpose cow are being continued;

(b) if so, in what states; and

(c) what progress is made in each one of the States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) In Madras and Punjab.

(c) The progress made is detailed in the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for 1949-50, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House. It is premature to draw any final conclusion from results obtained so far.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know, Sir, what results have been achieved in the increase of yield of milk and improvement in the quality of breed?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has already said that it is premature at this stage to come to a conclusion.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is there any likelihood of this experiment being carried out in other States?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is found that moderate increase in milk production is achieved without deterioration in bullock quality. I may say that in my part of the country, at the Anand Institute experiment has been carried out with considerable success.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister has held any consultation with my hon. friend Seth Govind Das before putting this double burden on the poor cow?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sonavane: What is this, the dual-purpose cow?

Mr. Speaker: He may enquire about it from the hon. Minister.

Shri Kamath: Are Government considering the evolution of a scheme for a multi-purpose cow?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN WOOL

*2027. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts to enable India to be self sufficient in the finer types of wool are under consideration; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken up in this direction?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) A five-year regional plan under which it is proposed to set up a regional Station in each of the three well known wool producing tracts (i) Sub-Himalayan region, U.P., (ii) Dry Northern region, Rajasthan and (iii) the Deccan Plateau, with a view to producing rams and ewes with finer quality fleece and higher yield of wool is under the consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Each region will have (i) a sheep breeding research station, (ii) a small fleece-testing laboratory and (iii) a sub-station attached to it.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the cost of this scheme?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The cost of the scheme will be Rs. 10,35,100 of which the Council's share will be Rs. 4,62,800.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know in what time India is expected to be self-sufficient in fine wool?

Mr. Speaker: It is a vague and general question.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know what are our total requirements of fine wool and what is at present produced in the country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Sir, I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri Kamath: Among the wool-producing States in India which State, proportionately to its size and population, has the most numerous sheep, and which sheep yields superior or finer quality of wool—black sheep or any other variety?

Shri K. M. Munshi *rose*.—

Mr. Speaker: No answer need be given. I might point out to hon. Members that when we are putting questions for information, we are expected to be serious about them.

Shri Kamath: I meant it in earnest.

Mr. Speaker: He might be in earnest, but I am very sorry to note that sometimes questions are repeatedly put for the sake of joke and fun. We are not here for creating peals of laughter but for eliciting seriously information which would be helpful to hon. Members in the examination of Government policies. I do not propose to call upon Members who put such questions.

Shri Kamath: I must protest.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

DEEP-SEA FISHING

*2028. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director-General of Fisheries made an extensive tour in Europe last year for the selection of two trawlers and their personnel for deep-sea fishing in the Bay of Bengal on behalf of the State of West Bengal; and

(b) whether deep-sea fishing by trawlers is practised anywhere else in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes; the Fisheries Development Adviser to the Government of India, and not the Director General of Fisheries, was deputed to visit Europe for the purpose.

(b) Yes; at Bombay.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Fisheries Development Adviser to the Government of India had any other purpose to serve in Europe in addition to the one mentioned in my question?

Shri K. M. Munshi: At the request of the Chief Minister of West Bengal his services were placed at the disposal of the West Bengal Government for going to Denmark for the purchase of these two trawlers and for selecting the crew after discussions with the local government and other authorities.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that the West Bengal Government paid the expenses for this officer?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am speaking from memory, but at one time the question was raised and ultimately some part was borne by the Provincial Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the two trawlers which were purchased were new trawlers or old ones reconditioned and repaired?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Again I am speaking from impression that they were not brand new but were already in service in Denmark.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the purchase cost of these?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The cost was paid by the West Bengal Government and I do not think I have got any materials with me here.

Shri Abdus Sattar: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the quantity of deep-sea-fish supplied to the Calcutta market?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I must enquire that from the West Bengal Government.

Shri Barman: May I know how many students were sent abroad, and to Great Britain in particular, in order to learn this technique of deep-sea fishing and what was the expenditure incurred thereon?

Shri K. M. Munshi: If the hon. Member would give notice I shall enquire.

Shri Sonavane: May I know by what percentage production has been increased by this method of deep-sea fishing in Bombay?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as Bombay is concerned it is a research station run by the Government of India, and I can only mention to the House the figures connected with the research station. I do not know what private agencies are doing in this matter. So far as the research station run by the Centre is concerned, work was started in 1948 and up to January 1951, 330·75 tons of fish of the value of Rs. 1,85,650 was recovered.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these two trawlers working in Bombay were purchased by the Government of India and given to some private agency or whether they are run by the Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact there are four of these trawlers, and not two, and they are being controlled by the Government of India. It is a research station meant not for the purpose of recovering fish but for research with regard to fish—where they are, how they are breeding, what are the places etc.

Shri Poonacha: Are there any proposals to arrange for refrigerator railway wagons or refrigerator railway lorries with a view to transport the fish inland, along with the scheme of deep-sea fishing?

Shri K. M. Munshi: For the moment the number of these centres in India is so small that the fish which is recovered is eaten up on the spot.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what is the contribution that the Government of India have made to the West Bengal Government for the purchase of these two trawlers and what was the actual cost on the tour of the personnel which went round to Europe to purchase these trawlers?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I explained, the whole expense was incurred by the Government of West Bengal. They sent one of their officers themselves, but they wanted Dr. Baini Prasad, the Fisheries Development Adviser to the Government of India, to accompany him because he could guide the officer in the purchase of the trawlers as well as in acquiring the services of the staff. So I do not think there are any figures in the possession of the Central Government about this except that, as I pointed out, the question arose whether the salary of Dr. Baini Prasad was to be recovered from the West Bengal Government or not, and I remember that in view of the request of the West Bengal Government that was not pressed. I do not think the Government of India incurred any special expense.

Shri Sidhva: So it means that one officer went as a guide and another for purchase.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

VIZAGAPATAM AIRPORT

*2029. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before Government for the development of Vizagapatam airport?

(b) If so, what will be the capital and recurring expenditure for the development and maintenance of the airport?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination. Development, if undertaken, is estimated to cost about Rs. 23 lakhs and the maintenance to cost about Rs. 99,000 as against the present expenditure of Rs. 54,000 per annum.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there is any existing regular air service connecting Vizagapatam with other Indian States?

Shri Kidwai: No.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is proposed to develop Vizagapatam into a night airport with night-landing equipment?

Shri Kidwai: The development is proposed because the Defence Ministry which has handed over this airport to the Civil Aviation Department want to make certain use of that port and if they finally decide to develop that port for their necessities, then the additional expenditure will be incurred.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is proposed to carry Air Mail from Calcutta to Nagpur *via* Vizagapatam?

Shri Kidwai: There is no such proposal.

Shri V. J. Gupta: May I know whether there is already a proposal with the Government to connect Vizagapatam with Nagpur?

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion.

LAND ADJOINING KANDLA PORT

*2030. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state the total area of land adjoining the port of Kandla, whose land values have been frozen by Government at the time when the decision to develop Kandla into a major port was taken?

(b) What was the value of land per acre before the development of Kandla and what is the present value per acre?

(c) How many acres of land have been disposed of by Government and how?

(d) At what rate have the lands for the development of a displaced persons township known as 'Gandhigram' been given by Government?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Two hundred square miles.

(b) The value of the land frozen varied from Rs. 85 to Rs. 161 per acre. There has been no change in valuation.

(c) No land has been disposed of by Government, but about 5,300 acres of land have so far been acquired for the Township, Kandla Port and Railway tracks.

(d) This is still under consideration. The township is know as 'Gandhidham'.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total amount Government had to pay for the acquisition of the land and the amount that Government hope to realize by sale of the land?

Shri Gopalaswami: The amount that is to be paid by Government has not yet been finally fixed, and therefore, I am not in a position to give that information.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any amount has been realized by the sale of lands?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have said that Government have sold no land yet.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether no money has been paid for the land that has been offered to 'Gandhidham'?

Shri Gopalaswami: There is a separate Corporation for that.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total area of land that has been given to the authorities of 'Gandhidham' township?

Shri Gopalaswami: Out of 5,300 acres of land already acquired, 1,400 acres

have been handed over to the Resettlement Corporation for pipe-lines and brick factory and for the construction of 4,000 houses for displaced persons, factory quarters, etc.

Dr. M. M. Das: What was the rate charged?

Shri Gopalaswami: As I said that has not yet been finally settled. I have not got the figure here.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of answer to part (d) the hon. Minister stated that 4,000 houses for displaced persons are built; may I know how many have actually been built and whether the Kutchies who have come from Karachi have been given permission to stay in that 'Gandhidham'?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think a substantial number of houses have been built. I am not in a position to give you the actual number.

Mr. Speaker: The latter part of the question was whether Kutchies coming from Karachi have been permitted to occupy any of these houses.

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know if any of them have been occupied by Kutchies. Some of them have been occupied.

Shri Sidhva: May I know if the hon. Minister will inquire whether the Kutchies who had stayed in Karachi for over 50 years have been refused and only Asal Sindhis have been allowed to stay there?

Shri Gopalaswami: I shall make enquiries.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that 15,000 acres were given as free grant by the Ex-Maharajah of Kutch for this development.....

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe so.

Lala Achint Ram: May I know whether any land would be made available for agricultural purposes also near the township?

Mr. Speaker: It is a township obviously.

Lala Achint Ram: Some land also can be given for agricultural purposes.

Shri Gopalaswami: I cannot give definite information, but I believe there is a scheme for reclamation of some land there and that scheme is being worked out by the Agriculture Ministry.

COMMUNIST MENACE IN HYDERABAD

*2031. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state the expenditure for the Military used in checking the communist menace in Hyderabad borne by the Centre alone?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): The entire expenditure on the Defence Forces stationed in Hyderabad State is borne by the Centre.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether it is possible to give the actual expenditure borne for the Police as well as for Military separately?

Shri Gopalaswami: The expenditure on the Police would be available in the Hyderabad Budget. So far as the expenditure on the Military is concerned, it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any decrease in the Communist activities in the State?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It would hardly arise.

Shri M. L. Gupta: May I know if the military is being employed in this Communist area or the Police?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is mostly the police. The military goes to the help of the Police whenever it is required.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any truth in the press report that on the recent visit of the Home Minister to Hyderabad State, the Hyderabad leaders, the President of the State Government and Swami Ramananda Tirtha suggested the banning of the Communist Party of Hyderabad?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this?

Thakur Lal Singh: May I know how is the military used in actual practice to combat Communism?

Shri Gopalaswami: I may tell the hon. Member that the military hardly goes into action just at present.

ORANGE PRESERVATION

*2032. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that orange cultivation is very much hampered because of a particular kind of pests;

(b) the measures taken, if any, to prevent the pests; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the establishment of cold storage in producing areas will conserve without deterioration of the fruits so as to make it available throughout the year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes. There are about half a dozen categories of pests which are very serious enemies of citrus cultivation.

(b) With the assistance of the Central Directorate of Plant Protection, some State Governments have, in the past two years, undertaken a campaign for the spraying of trees with insecticides.

(c) Oranges can be preserved in cold storage only for a maximum of about three months.

Shri Alexander: Are the Government in a position to give approximately the total production of oranges in the country and the area under cultivation and the yield per acre?

Mr. Speaker: He wants figures for the entire country.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice.

Shri Alexander: Do Government propose to have researches made to evolve a better yielding variety?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think there is any research being carried on that I know but I speak subject to correction.

Shri Alexander: Do the Government propose to have cold storage vans in trains to transport these oranges to various parts of the country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Railway Board has placed eleven refrigerator vans for transport of perishables by rail.

Shri Poonacha: Do Government propose to take any measures to combat the spreading menace to citrus trees called "the Frenching disease", a disease which the Government of India have not been able to combat properly so far?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Research is being carried on and as I said the Directorate of Plant Protection have analysed the different kinds of pests which affect citrus production.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know that since Nagpur is a very big centre of orange production whether any cold storage arrangements are there and what assistance has the Central Government given to these cold storage arrangements?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There are two cold storage plants in Nagpur, one of which is subsidized by the State Government. The capacity of both the plants is to store about 64,800 millions but the total quantity of oranges stored was only 1,200 millions in 1949-50. I know assistance is given by the Centre.

Shri Hussain Imam: Can the hon. Minister give information about the special research refrigeration which is being carried out in Mysore or Bangalore at the food research laboratories?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Research work is being carried on for the control of Fluted Scale on its wild hosts in Mysore under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

INDIAN MERCHANT SHIPPING

*2034. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state;

(a) whether the question of expansion of Indian merchant shipping has recently come under the active consideration of the Government of India;

(b) if so, whether any Government proposal for shipping expansion has been drawn up;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the financial and other implications of the proposal; and

(d) the time by which the expansion proposal is expected to be effected?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The question of expansion of Indian shipping has in recent years constantly been under the consideration of the Government of India and various steps have from time to time been taken to further the objective of an adequate mercantile marine.

(b) to (d). Shipping is in the private sector of our economy. Government are however alive to the need for the rapid development of Indian shipping and have, from time to time, taken and are taking active steps to assist in this process. Nevertheless acquisition of additional tonnage is primarily a matter for the Indian shipping companies themselves. For shipping, which requires a large capital and which reacts acutely to changing internal and world conditions, it is difficult to make any rigid plans or to adhere to them rigidly. For example, although Government had planned to set up two or three shipping corporations on a State-cum-private ownership basis to facilitate the participation of Indian shipping in the overseas trades, they had for the present to cut down the scheme to only one corporation.

Some of the steps taken by Government to assist the development of

Indian shipping for the present are to set up a Shipping Corporation on a State-cum-private ownership basis, to arrange to include a provision of Rs. 10·5 crores in the Colombo Plan to cover a period of six years from the middle of 1951 to enable the purchase of vessels, to reserve for sale to Indian companies ships built at Vizagapatam Yard at world parity prices, recoveries being made in instalments, and to make a provision of Rs. 1 crore in the Budget for 1951-52 for loans for the purchase of tonnage for overseas trade.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any target has been fixed for building ships?

Shri Santhanam: Yes; various targets have been fixed by the Committee which went into the question. But, the difficulty is to realise those targets.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this matter has been taken up by the Planning Commission and if so, whether any priority has been given to this development?

Shri Santhanam: I believe the Planning Commission finalised the Colombo Plan and 10·5 crores were allotted in accordance with the recommendations of that Plan.

Shri Kamath: Has any decision been taken by Government with regard to the reservation of coastal trade for Indian shipping, and if so, what steps have been taken by Government to implement that decision?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. A decision was taken and it has been implemented. Now, 90 per cent. of coastal shipping is already in Indian hands. It is expected that about some time this year, 100 per cent. will be realised.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total tonnage of shipping added to our merchant marine in post-war years?

Shri Santhanam: Tonnage both for coastal and foreign shipping?

Mr. Speaker: For coastal shipping only.

Shri Santhanam: In 1950, the total tonnage was 200,595.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Training Centre for the training of officers for shipping is sufficient to meet the requirements of the country?

Shri Santhanam: Yes; we are developing our institutions which are at present capable of turning out all the officers required in the immediate future.

Shri Jnani Ram: What is the target year by which India will become self-supporting in mercantile marine?

Shri Santhanam: No country can be absolutely self-supporting. So far as coastal trade is concerned, we will be self-sufficient by the end of this year.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is the hon. Minister in a position to give any indication whether this expansion work will be done through the construction of new Indian ship-building yards, or in foreign yards?

Shri Santhanam: We are constructing some ships in the Vizagapatam yard and smaller vessels in other places. But, our capacity for ship-building will not be sufficient for a long time to come.

मूंगफली की खेती

*२०३५ **श्री जांगड़े** : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) भारत में इस समय कितनी भूमि में मूंगफली की खेती की जा रही है ;

(बी) क्या गत तीन वर्षों में मूंगफली की खेती में कोई वृद्धि हुई है ?

Groundnut Cultivation

[*2035. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land at present under groundnut cultivation in India; and

(b) whether there has been an increase in the groundnut cultivation during the course of the last three years.]

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 9·7 million acres in 1949-50.

(b) No.

श्री जांगडे : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलायेंगे कि वनास्पति के तैयार करने में जब मूंगफली की मांग की जाती है, तो वह कहां से पूरी होती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the source from which the demand for the supply of groundnuts used in the manufacture of Vanaspati is being met?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: From the groundnut grown in this country.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या यह सच नहीं है कि मूंगफली की खेती होने पर भी हमारे यहां मूंगफली के तेल की कीमत बढ़ती जा रही है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Is it not a fact that the prices of groundnut oil are going on increasing notwithstanding the fact that it is being cultivated here?]

Mr. Speaker: He is asking for an opinion.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think that is more or less an opinion. But the prices have risen, as I pointed out on the last occasion when I answered a question.

Shri Sonavane: What is the quantity of groundnut used for the manufacture of Vanaspati in the country?

Shri K. M. Munshi: On the last occasion, I answered this question in detail. Those figures are in the records of the House. I have not got those figures here.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या हिन्दुस्तान से विदेशों में मूंगफली बाहर भेजी जाती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Is groundnut being exported from India?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: Not for the moment.

Mr. Speaker: I think we may go to the next question. This question has been dealt with sufficiently on a former occasion.

Land under Cotton Cultivation

*2036. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the area under cotton cultivation in all States;

(b) whether it is a fact that the area under cotton cultivation is decreasing year by year in the last six years; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The final forecast for the year 1950-51 is not yet available; the acreage in 1949-50 was 11·79 million acres.

(b) and (c). No. A statement showing the State-wise acreage for the last six years is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 30]. The fluctuation is negligible; except in 1947-48.

The reduction in the acreage during 1947-48 was due to adverse seasonal conditions and the post-partition disturbances in some cotton growing tracts.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मुल्क की जरूरत को देखते हुए कपास की खेती के एरिया को बढ़ाने की कोई कोशिश की जा रही है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether in view of the need for cotton in the country any attempt is being made to increase the area under cotton cultivation?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: Efforts are being made to increase the cultivation of cotton.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : इस एरिया को बढ़ाने के लिये किसान को क्या सहूलियतें देने की तरफ़ सरकार का ध्यान है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** What are the facilities which the Government contemplate to give to the cultivators for increasing its acreage?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, certain subsidies are given for seed and for manure. As the House is aware, the price of cotton was raised in last June or July.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether in the last year, certain acreage under cotton was put under food crops, and if so, may I know whether Government have a definite plan for five years to come whereby areas under food crops and cash crops may not be disturbed?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, during the last year, under the integrated production programme, a certain limit was set for growing the different kinds of crops, that is, foodgrains, cotton, jute, etc. Since then, there has been no conflict between cotton and foodgrains.

Shri Sidhva: The second part of my question, regarding the five year plan, Sir?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Government has got a plan by which, as I pointed out in the debate on the last occasion, cotton could be grown on a larger scale to meet the deficiency in the country.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is the Planning Commission doing crop planning work for this also?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It should be addressed to the Planning Commission.

Shri K. C. Sharma: What is the quantity of improved cotton seeds imported from abroad?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the Central Government has issued special instructions to the West Bengal Government for growing more cotton?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know whether any specific instructions have been issued. But, it is likely that under the scheme for producing more cotton of the proper variety, certain allocations of acreage might have been required of them. I am not sure of it.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What steps are Government taking to increase the acreage under superior varieties of cotton?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Under the I.C.A.R. scheme several areas have been earmarked where specific good quality cotton has to be grown.

Mr. Speaker: The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Land Development Board

***2024. Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) when the Land Development Board, Delhi was formed;

(b) the expenditure so far incurred on the same by way of salaries etc;

(c) the work done by it; and

(d) how much additional land has been brought under cultivation due to its efforts?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The Land Development Board, Delhi was fully constituted on 14th June, 1950.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the pay, etc., of the staff during 1950-51 amounts to Rs. 18,190.

(c) The details of the work done by the Land Development Commissioner are as under:

3,456 acres surveyed;

954 feet of diversion channels constructed;

641 feet of contour bunds made;

10 gullies plugged;

29,411 trees planted;

6,400 tree stumps distributed for plantation;

More than 50,000 plants of twelve different species have been raised in a nursery.

(d) 2,055 acres of land have been reclaimed and brought under cultivation with Government Tractors.

Assets and Liabilities of *ex*-Princely States

***2037. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the total assets and liabilities taken over by Government from each Princely State or group of States on the formation of Unions of States or on their merger with adjoining territories, including all States now known as Part B States and some of the Part C States; and

(b) which of the liabilities referred to in part (a) above are still outstanding?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). The information required by the hon. Member has been called for from the State Governments concerned. A statement giving the information in detail will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as all replies have been received.

Licence for Sugar Mills

***2038. Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India granted licences to individuals or companies in Madras or any other States to start new sugar mills in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) whether Government have under consideration any proposal to give subsidy to the new enterprises and if so, the amount involved State-wise or area-wise; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to have shares in any of these new enterprises?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) No licence is prescribed for the purpose but the State Governments are permitting parties to put up factories at approved sites in accordance with the Government of India's plan of Expansion of Sugar Industry. In 1949-50 permission to set up three factories in Bombay and one factory in West Bengal was given. In 1950-51 permission was given to 2 more factories in the State of Bombay. No permission was given for a new factory in Madras State during these two years.

(b) and (c). No. Sugar Mills usually add to the prosperity of the area in which they are situated and landless agricultural labourers are not likely to be adversely affected by the setting up of a Sugar Mill.

Bills of Displaced Contractors

***2039. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of bills of the displaced contractors passed by the Government of United India, before the partition of the country, has not been paid uptil now;

(b) what is the estimated amount of such bills; and

(c) what has caused so much delay in their payment?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No bills passed by the authorities of the undivided Government of India are unpaid. There are, however, a few claims for uncashed cheques issued by the old North Western and Bengal Assam Railways which are still unpaid.

(b) Approximately Rs. 30,000.

(c) The delay is due to non-verification by the authorities in Pakistan, who have the records of the Railways mentioned above.

Communist Activities in Tripura

***2040. Shri S. M. Ghose:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that several persons have been kidnapped by the communists in the Sadar-Division of Tripura State for helping the Government during the last few weeks?

(b) How many of the kidnapped persons have since been murdered or remained untraced?

(c) Is it a fact that some of the kidnapped persons were subsequently let off by the communists on payment of ransoms and for giving undertaking not to help Government in any way?

(d) Is it a fact that the communists have burnt down Lalsingmora Primary Congress Office on the 20th January night, looted and burnt Sri Kshitish Banerji's Kachari at Barkathal and snatched away four rifles from the Armed Police Force at Chebri?

(e) Is it also a fact that the communists have got large quantities of unlicenced fire-arms and ammunition at their disposal?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) It is unfortunately the case that some kidnappings have taken place.

(b) No cases of murder have been reported, but five persons remain to be rescued.

(c) No complaints of this nature have been made to the police; but reports to this effect have been received.

(d) Yes. Cases have been registered in all the three cases and are under investigation.

(e) Communists have unlicensed fire-arms but the precise number is not known.

Transport for Timber

***2041. Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether any representation has been received from the Timbers Dealers Association, Ballarsha (Madhya Pradesh) that lacs of rupees worth timber is lying at Ballarsha for want of wagons?

(b) Is it a fact that 2,000 labourers are without work owing to the non-supply of wagons to the Timber Association?

(c) Is it a fact that 50 to 60 wagons pass every month from Ballarsha of return date (P.O.H.) unloaded?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information of the actual number of labourers idling.

(c) and (d). Instructions are already in force that wagons due periodical overhaul returning to N.S., M. and S.M. and S.I. Railways, *via* Ballarshah, should be loaded on the Nagpur Division, with traffic for stations on those Railways within the quotas *via* junctions beyond, such as Bezwada. Some of these, however, are not loaded being unfit for loading.

Food Rationing Department

***2042. Shri Deogirikar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state State-wise:

(a) the total number of persons working in different States of India in the Food Rationing Departments; and

(b) what is the total amount spent on the salaries of those persons?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). Necessary information is not readily available with the Central Government. An enquiry has been addressed to the State Governments and the information received will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

DEVELOPMENT OF COOCH-BEHAR

*2043. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether an amount of more than a crore of rupees, was earmarked for the development of Cooch-Behar at the time of its merger with West Bengal?

(b) What is the machinery set up for planning and execution of the above project?

(c) If any plan has been finalised, what is the portion of the fund that will be spent towards the social needs of the rural areas as distinct from urban area amenities?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (c). At the time of integration of Cooch-Behar with West Bengal, the Government of West Bengal agreed that the cash balance of the Cooch-Behar State will be utilised on schemes of nation-building importance, for the benefit of the people of Cooch-Behar. The exact amount of cash balance and liquid investments available for such schemes can only be determined after an examination of the statement of assets and liabilities of the State at the time of its merger which has been undertaken by the Government of West Bengal. The intention is that the overall net surplus of liquid assets over liabilities should be constituted into a General Reserve Fund for Cooch-Behar to be administered by the West Bengal Government in consultation with the Government of India. No plan can be finalised until the amount has been determined.

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

*2044. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian Government Railways which have Local Advisory Committees;

(b) the number of meetings held by each Local Advisory Committee during the ten months from 1st April, 1950 to 31st January 1951; and

(c) whether similar Local Advisory Committees exist on non-Government Railways also?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). A statement detailing the information required by the hon. Member is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 31.]

(c) From such information as is readily available to Government it is understood that there are no Local Advisory Committees on non-Government Railways except one on the Barsi Light Railway.

OVERSEAS TRAINING ON TELEPHONES

*2045. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to send candidates overseas for practical training on telephone system;

(b) if so, how selections will be made;

(c) whether Government would avail of opportunities under Point Four Programme and the Colombo Plan to develop Tele-Communication System in India; and

(d) what is the decision regarding establishment of a Radar factory in India?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Selection is made from amongst suitable officers of the P. & T. Department by taking into consideration the age, previous experience and aptitude for the particular specialised training.

(c) Yes.

(d) This question should be addressed to the hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry.

NIZAMSAGAR SUGAR FACTORY

*2046. **Shri K. Vaidya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the *ex*-factory price of sugar for the Nizamsagar sugar factory production fixed by the Government of India?

(b) Is it proportionately higher than that fixed for the production of other factories?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Rs. 29/12/- per maund of 82·2/7 lbs.

(b) No.

LOCUST INVASION

*2047. **Maulvi Hanee:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government have the information that locust swarms destroyed crops of vast areas in Jullunder and Hoshiarpur districts recently?

(b) Has any investigation been made about their laying eggs somewhere on the border of the said two districts?

(c) If so, what steps have been taken for the destruction of the locust swarms?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes; crops over considerable areas have been damaged by locusts in these two districts.

(b) Egg-laying is reported to have started from the 14th of February, 1951, in Hoshiarpur District.

(c) The Punjab Government are taking all possible measures, within the limits of their resources, for the destruction of swarms; and the Central Anti-Locust Organisation has co-operated whole-heartedly with them by supplying Land Rovers with power operated dusters and trained technical personnel and information about the latest methods of control, under various circumstances.

POSTAL COMPLAINTS

*2048. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements exist to deal with the complaints from the Public regarding the working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department; and

(b) whether there are any Regional Complaints Officers for Posts and Telegraphs in the State of Madras?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The normal organization of the P. & T. Department includes arrangements for attending to complaints from the public, but there is also a Special Complaints Organization whose function is to investigate complaints possessing unusual features.

(b) No, Sir. Regional Complaints Officers who form part of the Special Complaints Organization are not appointed separately for each State. The regional units in the Special Complaints Organization have been formed on the basis of the volume and nature of the complaints in the different areas and a Regional Complaints Officer exclusively for Madras State has not been found to be justified. Actually, there is one Regional Complaints Officer for the Bombay and Madras P. & T. Circles.

THIRD CLASS RAILWAY PASSENGERS

*2049. **Shri Ansari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what was the total number of third class passengers on Railways in 1949-50?

(b) What is the percentage of the third class passengers who travel in excess of the capacity of a third class compartment?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) On Class I Railways, 1,155,559,000.

(b) No figures can be given of the actual percentage of third class passengers who travelled in excess of the capacity of third class compartments of trains. But from a calculation of the occupation of seats during journey time, during the month of October 1950, the occupation ratio is estimated at 80 per cent.

TUBE WELLS

*2050. **Shri Nandkishore Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) Since when the programme of sinking four thousand wells in furtherance of Grow More Food Scheme will be undertaken;

(b) whether the sinking will be done under the direction of the Central Government or will it be left to the States Governments as part of their Grow More Food programmes; and

(c) whether there has been an All-India survey of the areas where the wells are to be constructed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The programme for the construction of 4,565 tubewells against a loan from the International Monetary Bank has since been dropped, as the loan was not made available. The Governments of U.P., Bihar and Punjab have, however, taken steps for the construction of 996 tubewells within a period of two years in furtherance of the Grow More Food Programme and the necessary loan will be given to them by the Government of India. The Bombay Government also are planning to construct 300 tubewells and are asking for tenders for their construction.

(b) The work will be done under the direction and supervision of the State Governments concerned.

(c) A geological and reconnaissance Survey has recently been carried out by foreign experts in these States which agreed to participate in the All-India Survey Scheme.

MANUFACTURE OF DIESEL ENGINES

*2051. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how many concerns there are in India manufacturing Diesel Engines with pumping sets; and

(b) what facilities Government propose to give to the agriculturists to purchase such Engines for irrigating their farms?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) There are five units manufacturing Diesel Engines and eight units manufacturing pumps in India.

(b) Loans and grants are at present being given to the cultivators for the purchase of pumping sets under the G.M.F. Schemes.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AT GONDIA

*2052. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether any representation has been received by Government from the citizens of Gondia in Madhya Pradesh to provide a Telephone Exchange at Gondia?

(b) Is it a fact that the industrialists and businessmen of Gondia are prepared to pay a deposit of Rs. 2,000 for the Exchange?

(c) Is it a fact that the Municipal Committee, Gondia, is prepared to furnish with a suitable building for the purpose?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) A few businessmen have written to the Postmaster-General, Nagpur, offering to take connections under the 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme.

(c) No offer from the Municipal Committee, Gondia, has been received.

RAILWAY RESERVATIONS

*2053. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state why reservations for the 3rd class passengers on Ahmedabad—Delhi Mails are made from Ahmedabad and Delhi Stations alone and not from intermediate railway junctions?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): It is not feasible at present in the existing state of overcrowding to provide reserved third class accommodation from intermediate stations. A system of reserving first class accommodation from intermediate stations is under experiment and the question of its extension to other classes will be considered after studying the results thereof.

POST OFFICES IN RAJASTHAN

*2054. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what capital has been transferred to the Government of India on account of the integration of local post offices of Rajasthan in the form of (i) buildings and (ii) annual income?

(b) Have all the local post offices been absorbed, if not how many have been left out?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) (i) Rs. 1,12,346.

(ii) Receipts: Rs. 1,99,000 per annum. Expenditure: Rs. 2,71,000 per annum (approximately).

(b) All local post offices have been absorbed.

PUMP FACTORIES

*2055. **Shri Jajoo:**
Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:

(a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the application for permission to start a pump-factory in India with their own capital submitted by Messrs. Johnston International as stated by the hon. Minister in reply to part (g) of starred question No. 965 answered on the 18th December 1950, has been considered by Government?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, is the permission granted or not?

(c) Did Government consider the present capacity of indigenous pump makers before granting the permission?

(d) Were there no Indian firms to start such factories?

(e) What special stipulations for making use of Indian personnel and energy by the foreign firm have been entered into and do they form part of the permission given by Government?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The question concerns the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and should have been addressed to that Ministry. It will be answered by the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry on a date assigned to that Ministry.

CONSUMPTION OF COAL ON RAILWAYS

125. **Shri Naziruddin Ahmad:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of steam coal used during the first half, of the current financial year by Indian Locomotives giving separately the grade-wise consumption;

(b) the total quantity of metallurgical coal used during the period, giving separately the quantity purchased from

the market and produced in Railway-owned collieries; and

(c) whether it is a fact that only 10 per cent. low grade coal (Grade II) and about 90 per cent. high grade coal (Grade I and above including metallurgical coal) are still being consumed in the Indian Railways though according to the estimate of the Indian Coal-fields Committee, reserves of high grade coal is only about 12 per cent. and low grade coal about 88 per cent.?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The total quantity of steam coal used during the first half of the current financial year by Indian locomotives was 5,352,000 tons. The break-down gradewise of this consumption is not readily available. Approximate percentages of the various grades allotted by the Coal Commissioner were:

Selected 'A'	12·0
Selected 'B'	23·5
Grade I	44·8
Grade II	14·5
Other	5·2

Deliveries to Railways, however, do not always tally closely with allotments.

(b) The total quantity of metallurgical coal used during the period was approximately 909,000 tons. It is estimated that about one-fifth of this was produced in Railway Collieries.

(c) For Locomotive use grades I and II are considered as lower grade coals and grades selected 'A' and selected 'B' as higher grade coals. On this basis, the proportion of lower grade coals used was about 65 per cent. and of higher grades about 35 per cent. The approximate proportion of grade II coals used was about 15 per cent. As regards reserves of high and low grade coals said to have been estimated by the Indian Coalfields Committee, the Committee stated in Chapter II of its Report that—

"There is no reason for anxiety over the resources of good quality non-coking coals both high and low volatile".

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Saturday, 10th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Amolak Chand Jain (Uttar Pradesh).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MONUMENTS IN VINDHYA PRADESH

*2056. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the dilapidated conditions of the monuments associated with Maharaja Chhatrasal Bundela in Chhatarpur District, Vindhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to preserve the monuments?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India will be responsible for the protection of these monuments when they are taken over. Under the Constitution, the Central Government can take them under their protection only when the necessary enactment has come into force.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know why some of the monuments of historical significance including the palace of Dhubela near Nawgaon and other monuments near Maheba have not been taken up so far?

Shri A. P. Jain: Under the Constitution, a monument has first to be declared a monument of national importance and then only it can be taken over. That question is under the active consideration of the Ministry.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What are the principles which determine that a monument is of great national significance?

Shri A. P. Jain: The historical and artistic eminence of the monuments.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the Centrally Administered Areas come under the area of operation of the Archæological Department under the Constitution?

Shri A. P. Jain: They do, but this law is applicable to Part A, Part B and Part C States.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: What will be the estimated cost of renovating these monuments and preserving them?

Shri A. P. Jain: First we have to decide the question of taking them over and then only the question of spending money on them will arise.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: May I know if the Shri. Padmanabha Palace murals in Travancore have been considered of historical and national importance?

Shri A. P. Jain: The question relates to Vindya Pradesh and naturally I am not expected to cover the whole area of India.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: The hon. Minister stated that steps are being taken to preserve the monuments. I am asking in that connection.

Mr. Speaker: "The monuments" means the monuments referred to in the question.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: I thought that it was any monument which comes under the Central Government.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा नये कानून बनेंगे, उस के मुताबिक वह मौनयुमेंट लिये जायेंगे, लेकिन अभी तो

वर्तमान कानून जो है, क्या उस के मुताबिक वह मौनयुमेंटस् प्रीज़रवेशन में नहीं आ सकते ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** The hon. Minister stated that those monuments would be taken over under the new enactments that would be enforced. Can they not be taken under preservation under the existing laws?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वह कानून तो इस सभा ने बनाया है जिस के माननीय सदस्य भी एक मेम्बर थे और उस कानून में यह दिया हुआ है कि खाली उन मौनयुमेंटस् के बारे में केन्द्रीय सरकार कानून बना सकती है, जिन को कि पहले नेशनल इम्पोर्टन्स का पार्लियामेंट घोषित कर दे और अभी तक जो मौनयुमेंटस् हैं उस को पार्लियामेंट ने नेशनल इम्पोर्टन्स का घोषित नहीं किया है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** That law has been enacted by a Committee of which the hon. Member was also a Member. It lays down that the Central Government has got powers to enact laws in respect of such monuments alone as are declared of national importance by Parliament. But Parliament has not so far declared the existing monuments as of national importance.]

HYDERABAD MINT

*2057. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 113 asked on the 17th November, 1950, and state whether Government propose *Sicca* notes of one rupee denomination and two pie copper coins to be continued to be issued from the Hyderabad Mint?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): As already stated by me on the 17th November, 1950, these notes and coins continue to be issued. Under the Part 'B' States (Laws) Act, 1951, the intention is to replace them progressively within a period not exceeding two years.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the maintenance cost of this mint is met by the Hyderabad State or the Centre?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The mint has now been taken over by the Centre.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is self-supporting. What is the cost of maintenance?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I must have notice of the question.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر - کیا سکون کے متعلق سرکار کوئی سینٹ (cent) سسٹم جاری کرنے کا بچار رکھتی ھے ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Do the Government propose to introduce any Cent system regarding the coins?]

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member has tabled a separate question on that.

Shri M. L. Gupta: May I know if after the Hyderabad currency has been discontinued this mint will be maintained or will be closed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That will depend upon the work turning up afterwards. I think a decision will be taken in the light of the circumstances then prevailing what to do with the mint

Shri Hussain Imam: Is there any parity between the *Sicca* rupee and the Indian rupee or is there any difference?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They are not at present at par.

Shri S. V. Naik: What other notes and coins are issued from Hyderabad?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No other new coins and notes are issued except the two mentioned in the question.

Shri K. V. Ranga Reddy: May I know whether compensation is given to the Hyderabad Government for taking over the mint and if so, how much is the amount?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That must be part of the general financial integration scheme. I do not think any separate settlement has been made only in regard to the profits arising from the mint.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that progressively this mint will be closed down in the course of two years. Am I right in understanding that after two years the *Sicca* notes and rupees will be stopped from being issued in this Hyderabad mint?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is the intention, that is to say, to bring about the transition completely to Indian currency within two years.

INSTALLATION OF TRANSMITTERS

*2058. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the number

of 10 K.W. medium wave transmitters which are to be installed in the year, 1951?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): Two.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know where these transmitters are going to be installed?

Shri Diwakar: In Nagpur and Gauhati.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the estimated expenditure for installing these transmitters?

Shri Diwakar: It is about Rs. 6 lakhs in each case.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: Is there any proposal to instal any transmitter in Rajasthan in the near future?

Shri Diwakar: Not under consideration just now.

Shri S. N. Das: Is there any programme for the installation of these transmitters elsewhere?

Mr. Speaker: These questions have been replied to many times.

Shri Sondhi: Is there any difference between the estimated cost as given out last year and the actual installation cost subsequently?

Shri Diwakar: I do not remember what the estimated cost as given out last year was, but it is possible that they differ.

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF INDIA

*2059 **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of deposit money of depositors was paid by the International Bank of India which had closed down;

(b) whether any call has been made on shareholders for payment of balance money of shares since the Bank stopped receiving deposits; and

(c) what is the position of the said Bank at the moment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Government understand that the Bank has fully paid off all the deposits except a small fraction which the parties concerned have not withdrawn in spite of repeated reminders.

(b) As far as Government are aware, no call was made on shareholders for payment of the reserve liability on partly-paid up shares after the date of the prohibitory order on the Bank.

(c) Government understand that the Company has changed its name to "The Vasant Investment Corporation Ltd." and no longer conducts any banking business.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister said that all amounts, excepting a small one, have been paid off. May I know whether there is any amount due to creditors apart from the depositors and shareholders which remains unpaid?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have no information about the creditors. My information relates to deposits out of which Rs. 4 lakhs have not yet been paid, because the parties concerned will not withdraw them in spite of repeated reminders.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES OF HIGH COURTS

*2063. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of lawyers of Uttar Pradesh recently held at Meerut passed a resolution to the effect that appointment of judges of High Courts should no longer be made by the Home Ministry of the Government of India but by the Ministry of Law;

(b) whether it is a fact that a similar demand was made by Lawyers of other States on previous occasions also; and

(c) if the reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have examined this suggestion and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) A copy of a resolution to this effect was received from the U.P. Lawyers Conference about three weeks after receipt of this question.

(b) So far as I have any information, no.

(c) Government do not propose to take any action on the representation of the Uttar Pradesh Conference of Lawyers, although of course, it will be noted that this was the view of that Conference.

The question of which Ministry should concern itself with particular subjects is an internal matter for the Cabinet, as to what is defined in the Constitution as a means for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Are Government aware that it is a very old demand that the appointment of High Court Judges should be the concern and responsibility of the Ministry of Law and not of the Ministry of Home Affairs?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Am I correct in suggesting that the present.....

Mr. Speaker: He need not carry on the argument in the form of a question.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact, Sir, that the present practice is a relic and a remnant of the olden days?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kamath: With regard to the appointment of Judges of High Courts, is it the practice that the Home Ministry or rather the Home Minister consults his Colleague, the Law Minister before appointments are made, or does the matter go before the Cabinet as a whole?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The procedure for the appointment of High Court Judges was recently re-examined and a definite procedure has been laid down by the present Government in that respect. Consultations take place among the Chief Justice of the State concerned, the Chief Minister of the State concerned, the Home Ministry here, the Chief Justice of India and then the matter is submitted to the President for final orders.

Further information as to whether the Law Minister or the Works Minister or the Home Minister is separately consulted cannot be a subject matter of an answer from me.

Shri Kazmi: What is the reason that the Law Minister is disqualified from being consulted?

Mr. Speaker: It is never alleged that he is disqualified.

Flood Relief Grant

*2064. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 1003 for 18th December, 1950 and state:

(a) whether the request of Assam Government for an earthquake and flood relief grant has been acceded to; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir. The request of the Assam Government has been accepted in principle.

(b) The Government of India have agreed to meet as grant 50 per cent. of the actual expenditure incurred on repairs to all Government buildings and those of local authorities; repairs to roads and communications; and repairs to non-Government educational and other institutions. They have also agreed to give the balance of the expenditure on these items as loan, if the Government of Assam so desire.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the purpose of the grant includes river training in Assam?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have held that river training is work of permanent development which does not fall within the category of relief projects.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, was the total amount asked for by the Assam Government for earth quake relief as disclosed by the Home Minister, I believe, in the last session and what is the amount granted now?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The sum asked for was Rs. 3·47 crores spread over three years. That is for various heads: creditors' relief, test relief, medical aid, agricultural aid, repairs, reconstruction and training of rivers, education aid, grants to local bodies, air survey and photography. That has been examined in consultation with a representative of the Assam Government and this arrangement which I have referred to was arrived at, after consultation.

Shri Sondhi: About what date, Sir?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The State Government were informed on the 30th December, 1950. All relief expenditure should be financed from the Governor's Relief Fund, the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and other non-official sources. Permanent works, like training of rivers, measures of protection, etc., should be considered by the State along with their other development works and financed by them with such assistance as may be possible to give on the basis of all-India priority. For the rest we would give 50 per cent. of the actual expenditure incurred on repairs as grant and the balance in loan.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: What was the amount paid during the year 1950-51 and what is proposed to be paid during 1951-52?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think any payment has been made because demand is made after expenditure is incurred for reimbursement. It is not a ways and means problem, but a problem of assistance.

Damodar Valley Projects

*2065. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether doubts have been expressed by experts regarding the Damodar Valley Projects owing to the Damodar Basin being possibly in epicentral tract;

(b) if so, has this position been fully examined; and

(c) whether any further change in design is expected to take place in order to withstand possible earthquake shocks?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (b). No, Sir., On the contrary the Geological Survey of India have stated that "the Damodar Basin is part of the stable peninsula and has not undergone faulting or folding since the Mesozoic era, although it has subsequently been subjected to regional uplift." They have also stated that "severe shocks do not originate in the Damodar Basin" and that "the seismic zone lies 150 miles to the north, and it is from shocks of very great intensity originating in this zone that the Damodar Basin feels the fringe effects".

(c) The factors as already stated, were known before any designing was done; and no change in the existing designs will be necessary on their account.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Who were the experts who examined this matter?

Shri Buragohain: The experts of the Geological Survey of India.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Was there any difference of opinion among them on this point?

Shri Buragohain: There was no difference of opinion. Some of them, after later investigations, have suggested that some of the dams should be of concrete instead of earthen.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, whether an Engineer who was appointed on this project had expressed an opinion that the site selected was not suitable and that this was not accepted by the Damodar Valley Corporation and therefore he was dismissed from service? May I know if this matter has come to the notice of the hon. Minister, and if so what steps have they taken?

Shri Buragohain: Government is not aware of any such thing.

Shri Kamath: How far approximately, Sir, is the Damodar Basin from the centre of the region where the disastrous earthquake occurred in Bihar in 1934?

Shri Buragohain: That will be more than 150 miles.

Floods

*2066. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state what measures to check or to minimise the devastating effect of floods in India are being suggested by the regional conference under the auspices of the E.C.A.F.E. Flood Control Bureau meeting in Delhi?

(b) What countries are taking part in this conference?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1946 on the 7th March, 1951 by Shri B. R. Bhagat with which was laid on the Table of the House, a copy of the recommendations of the regional conference of the Bureau of Flood Control held in New Delhi under the auspices of E.C.A.F.E. in January last.

(b) The countries which participated in the conference are:

Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, France, India, Indonesia, Netherlands, Newzealand, Pakistan, Thailand, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Viet Nam.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether any of the measures suggested by them have been accepted by Government?

Shri Buragohain: They are now under consideration, Sir.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the hon. Minister has got any information regarding Flood Control which was discussed at the E.C.A.F.E. conference held at Lahore recently?

Shri Buragohain: I have not got the material that was discussed in the last conference at Lahore. It was a very recent one.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether these measures are to be examined by the Planning Commission or by Government?

Shri Buragohain: They will be examined by the Ministry concerned.

مولانا معسودی - کاشمیر کو فلڈس سے بچانے کی جو ڈرجرس کی اسکیم ھے کیا وہ کانفرنس کے سامنے آئیگی -

[**Maulana Masuodi:** Will the dredger scheme to save Kashmir from floods be brought before the Conference?]

Shri Buragohain: That is a separate question altogether, Sir.

Social Tensions

*2067. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether Dr. Gardner Murphy has completed his study of social tensions in India?

(b) What are the important social tensions in the country over which he is conducting researches?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes. Dr. Gardner Murphy who was appointed by U.N.E.S.C.O. as Technical Consultant to the Government of India for their tensions project has completed his assignment. A detailed statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 32.]

(b) The research on social tensions has been throughout conducted by Indian scholars. The list of important subjects of research is given in the Enclosure to the statement.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether subjects like religion, caste or community, or the tensions between various political parties like the Justice Party and the Communist Party were dealt with in this research?

Shri A. P. Jain: A full and comprehensive statement has been placed on the table and from a perusal of the statement it will be found that religious, provincial, linguistic and racial tensions were studied. In addition to that a project of enquiries into tensions affecting international understanding was also the subject matter of study.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know what practical application the study of tension has got on the future programme, policy or plans of the Government of India?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far, I think they are only in the study stage. After some final results have been achieved, of course they will affect governmental and other policies.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact that tensions, social or otherwise, are more severe in Europe and America, and has this Dr. Murphy had any experience in the study of social and other tensions in his own country or in Europe?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, Dr. Murphy had certainly experience of the tensions, but I am not a sufficiently qualified man to say whether the tensions in Europe are more severe than in India.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Planning Commission which is said to be preparing its reports in a few months' time has anything to do with the study of these tensions by this Professor?

Shri A. P. Jain: The study of these tensions has been undertaken at the suggestion of the U.N.E.S.C.O. and, so far, I do not think that the Planning Commission has anything to do with it.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the specific purpose for which Dr. Murphy was commissioned to study social tensions in India and how the Government of India is going to utilise the report of the study?

Shri A. P. Jain: He was a technical Consultant and it was with his advice that six principal research teams were set up besides a few more minor ones.

Shri Gautam: What steps do Government propose to take to remove these tensions?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter for study and research. I am going to the next question.

Mineral Resources

*2068. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) what important minerals have been found and in what States as a result of the Geological Survey of India in 1949;

(b) whether these mineral resources promise good supply and approach;

(c) what localities Government propose to undertake working up immediately; and

(d) what is the estimated amount of expenditure involved in working up this scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (b). A statement giving information obtained as a result of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India during the field season 1949-50 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 33.]

(c) The exploitation of minerals is the concern of State Governments.

(d) Does not arise.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what parts of the country were surveyed in 1949?

Shri Buragohain: I have given the list of the minerals together with the extent of the minerals available, in all those areas that have been surveyed.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: I wanted to know the areas that were surveyed.

Mr. Speaker: Are they given in the statement?

Shri Buragohain: Yes, Sir, the locations have been given and also the extent of minerals that are available. It is a very long list.

Shri Dwivedi: What arrangements do Government propose to make in the case of the States which are under the Central Government?

Shri Buragohain: But the mines are worked by private agencies only.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the contribution of the State Governments in the working of these mines? Do they solely take it up or does the Centre also come in?

Shri Buragohain: Actually they do not take it up. It is private parties who do the work. But in the first instance it is the State Government's concern to grant a prospecting or any other kind of licence to work these mines.

Dr. Deshmukh: Does Government make any special effort for the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the country or is it only in the normal course that the matter is dealt with? Is there a special plan for the rapid exploitation of the mineral wealth of the country?

Shri Buragohain: In the case of strategic materials of course Government have taken certain definite steps.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Who was in charge of this survey in 1949, an Indian or a foreigner?

Shri Buragohain: The Geological Survey of India and the senior officials of that organisation.

Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad

*2069. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state what is the maximum number of students admitted to the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad?

(b) How many teachers are there?

(c) What is the annual expenditure incurred by Government on this institution and how many students has it trained and in what subjects?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The maximum number of students that can be admitted to the Indian School of Mines each year in the I year class is 48. The total number on the rolls today is 153.

(b) There are at present 28 professors, lecturers and other instructors in the School. Six lecturers' posts are vacant and these are being filled through the U.P.S.C.

(c) A statement showing the annual expenditure incurred by Government on the Indian School of Mines during the last 5 years is laid on the Table of the House. Since the establishment of the School in 1926, 439 students have been trained. Of these, 389 received training in Mining Engineering and 50 in Geology.

STATEMENT

The annual expenditure incurred on the Indian School of Mines during the period of 5 years ending 1949-50.

Year	Expenditure other than expenditure on construction.	Expenditure on construction.
	Rs.	Rs.
1945-46	2,26,678	1,12,396
1946-47	3,11,618	36,879
1947-48	3,16,438	1,24,613
1948-49	4,73,443	1,66,572
1949-50	5,49,556	5,77,910

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Have these persons been employed?

Shri Buragohain: I would like to have notice. Presumably, they have all been employed.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are the students given stipends? If so, how much and for what period?

Shri Buragohain: They are given stipends but with regard to the amount, I should like to have notice. I have not got that information with me.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the minimum qualification required for a student to get admission to the School?

Shri Buragohain: They must be Intermediate or they must pass an equivalent examination.

Shri Abdus Sattar: Will the hon. Minister please state the number of students admitted State-wise?

Shri Buragohain: 44 are allotted to different States as follows:—Madras 3, West Bengal 3, Bombay 2, Bihar 3, Orissa 2, Uttar Pradesh 2, Madhya Pradesh 2, Assam 2, East Punjab 2, Delhi, Ajmer, Merwara and other Centrally Administered Areas 3, Saurashtra 1, Madhya Bharat 1, Rajasthan 1, Patiala, Vindhya Pradesh 1, Hyderabad 1, Mysore, Travancore and Cochin Union 1, Scheduled Castes 4, Pakistan 8, Indian and indigenous students from other Commonwealth and foreign countries 2. This is the allocation of seats.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is this allocation being strictly adhered to in actual fact?

Shri Buragohain: Yes, Sir.

Shri Gautam: Does the School satisfy the needs of the country or there is still greater demand on the part of the public? If so what steps do the Government propose to expand the training in the Centre?

Shri Buragohain: There is demand, Sir, for improving this institution and just now a proposal for starting a post graduate section is under the consideration of the Government.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know on what basis has the allocation been made? Is it according to the contribution from the Provinces or the number of students coming forward from the States?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice of that question.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

NATIONAL ART GALLERY

***2070. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to have a National Art Gallery in Delhi?

(b) What is the progress which such a proposal has made so far?

(c) By what time is it expected that the proposal would fully materialise?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The Government of India have had under consideration a proposal to establish a National Art Gallery in Delhi but owing to financial stringency, it has not been possible to proceed with the proposal.

(c) It is not possible to say when the proposal can be pursued actively.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is any effort being made to acquire any paintings of national importance that may be available at the present moment, or is the whole matter being left over because of the financial difficulties?

Shri A. P. Jain: Except for the purchase of a few paintings it appears that the whole matter is being left over for the future on account of financial stringency.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any exploratory work has been done in this connection and whether any amount has been spent over it?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have said in answer that it has not been possible to proceed with the proposal, and naturally that means that very little has been done.

Shri S. N. Das: What was the estimated expenditure to start with?

Shri A. P. Jain: When the proposal has not been taken up, where does the question of estimated expenditure arise?

Shri A. C. Guha: When they have not got the money, have the Government considered the idea of taking the help of some non-official Art Societies?

Shri A. P. Jain: Does the hon. Member mean with regard to finances?

Shri A. C. Guha: As regards the National Art Gallery, have Government considered the idea of taking the help of some non-official Art Societies, so that with some help from the Government, they may put up a National Art Gallery.

Shri A. P. Jain: Non-official help is always welcome.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

SEIZURE OF GOLD

***2071. Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what is the total value of gold seized from smugglers during the last twelve months?

(b) How much did it cost the exchequer to seize this smuggled gold?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The total value of gold seized during the twelve months from 1st January, 1950 to 31st December, 1950 was Rs. 1,00,20,000 approximately.

(b) No staff is employed exclusively for preventing the smuggling of gold.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that most of our dollar resources have been consumed by this gold smuggling?

Shri Tyagi: I have heard so, but I do not think that most of these resources have been consumed by gold smuggling.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I do not think that even by the wildest imagination this could happen that most of our dollar resources were consumed by gold smuggling. These estimates differ. It is very difficult to make an estimate in regard to a thing like smuggled gold, but it must be a very small percentage of our total export trade with dollar areas.

Shri Hussain Imam: What amount has been taken credit of in this year and in future years from gold smuggling?

Shri Tyagi: It will depend on facts, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

SALWAN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, RAJENDAR NAGAR

***2072. Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced children in the Salwan Higher Secondary School at Rajendra Nagar, New Delhi;

(b) the amount of building fund realised from the students till the end of 1950;

(c) whether the money so realised has on any account, been spent or stands deposited and if so, where; and

(d) whether Government have definitely asked the manager of the School to stop realisation of this fund and if so, with what result?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) There are two Salwan Higher Secondary Schools in Rajendra Nagar, one for boys and the other for girls. The number of displaced students in the two schools is 2,417.

(b) Rs. 13,320.

(c) The money has been used to defray expenses incurred by the management for the betterment of the students or payment of salaries to teachers.

(d) Yes. The management has stopped the realisation of this fund with effect from the 31st January, 1951.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : दिल्ली में और स्कूलों में इस तरह से विद्यार्थियों स रुपया वसूल करने का दस्तुर है या नहीं ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Is such a fund realised from the students of other schools in Delhi or not?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी नहीं । यह दस्तूर के खिलाफ है इसीलिय इस को रोका गया है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** No, Sir; it is against the usual practice and therefore it has been stopped.]

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : बिल्डिंग फंड में सरकार ने उस स्कूल को कितने रुपये दिये हैं ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** How much money has been contributed by the Government to that school towards its building fund?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मिनिस्ट्री आफ रिहैबिलिटेशन ने तीस हजार रुपया उस स्कूल को बिल्डिंग फंड में दिया है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The Ministry of Rehabilitation has given thirty thousand rupees to that school towards its building fund.]

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : इस स्कूल को सरकार और कौन कौन सी मदद देती है ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** What other aids are given by the Government to that school?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : पहले रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री इसको मदद दिया करती थी । चुनाचे मई सन् १९५० तक रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री ने दिया :

लड़कों के स्कूल के लिए चार हजार सात सौ रुपया ।

लड़कियों के स्कूल के लिए पांच हजार चार सौ पचास रुपया ।

इस के पश्चात दिल्ली स्टेट के बजट से इस को इमदाद दी गई :

लड़कों के स्कूल के लिए दिया गया ४०१८० रुपया। और अब उस को दिया जा रहा है १७३०० और लड़कियों के स्कूल के लिए दिया गया है ७५५० रुपया।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Formerly the Ministry of Rehabilitation used to give aid to it. Till May, 1950 it gave four thousand and seven hundred rupees for the boys' school and five thousand, four hundred and fifty rupees for the girls' school. Afterwards aid was given to it from the Budget of Delhi State. Rs. 40,180 and Rs. 7,550 have been given to the school for boys and the girls' school respectively and at present a sum of Rs. 17,300 is being given to the former.]

Shri Kamath: What work had Mr. Salwan done in his Province before he came to India after Partition, in the matter of schools in general?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Salwan Education Trust was running a Boys' High School at Peshawar, which was closed after the Partition.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सिलवन स्कूल को जो मदद दी जाती है वह हर महीने में दी जाती है या साल भर की मदद एक ही बार में दे दी जाती है ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Is the grant to Salwan School given every month or the amount for the entire year is given in lump sum?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : तीस हजार रुपया तो बिल्डिंग के लिए दिया गया। उसका तो साल से कोई सम्बन्ध ही नहीं है, और बाकी जो मदद दी गई उसकी मैंने तारीखें बतला दी हैं। इसमें सालवार का तो कोई प्रश्न पैदा नही होता।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Rs. 30,000 were given for building purposes. This has nothing to do with the yearly grant. About the rest of the grants I have already given the dates. The question of annual grants, therefore, does not arise at all.]

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : हर मास में माहवारी खर्च के लिए उसको पैसा दिया जाता है या नहीं और अगर दिया जाता है तो ठीक वक्त पर मिलता है या नहीं ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Is the money for monthly expenditure given to it every month or not? If it is given every month, does the school receive this amount regularly or not?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : यह तो करेंट खर्च के लिए दिया गया है। जाहिर है कि साल से तो इसका सम्बन्ध नहीं है। मई सन ५० तक रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री ने दिया। उसके बाद स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने दिया, और फाइनेन्शल इयर जो कि ३१ मार्च को आने वाली है उसके बाद देने का तो कोई सवाल नहीं आता है। ऐसी मेरे पास कोई शिकायत नहीं है कि उनको समय पर नहीं मिलता है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** It has been given for the current expenditure. It is obvious that it does not, in any way, relate to any annual grant. Till May, 1950, the grant was given by the Ministry of Rehabilitation and afterwards the aid was given by the State Government. Hence the question of giving it after the expiry of the financial year on the 31st March does not arise at all. I am not in receipt of any information that the grant is not received regularly.]

C. W. I. N. C.

*2073. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission has submitted any report or advice either to the Central or any State Government to improve inland navigation in India; and

(b) if so, whether any State Government has finalised any scheme to start inland water transport?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission has carried out preliminary surveys with a view to developing inland navigation on the Mahanadi river and on a number of rivers in the Ganga valley. No regular report as such, has been submitted but as a result of the investigations, the Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission has suggested an order of priority for the development of inland navigation.

(b) It is proposed that the reach of the Ganga river from Patna-Buxar to Allahabad, should be developed first. Certain proposals in this regard are under consideration. Government of India have no information about the finalisation of any scheme for inland water transport by any State Government.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether any of the schemes proposed by the Commission is going to be taken up by the Government this year?

Shri Buragohain: I have already stated that an order of priority has been decided upon. The first priority has been given to the Ganga river from Buxar to Allahabad.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: I wanted to know whether this thing is going to be taken up in 1951-52.

Shri Buragohain: The matter is under consideration between the Ministry of Transport and this Ministry.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether any sum is being allotted to any State Government to implement any of the schemes proposed by this Commission?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice of the question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that most of the boats plying between Buxar and Lalgolaghat have been diverted to Pakistan by the shipping companies?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that the C.W.I.N.C. made some enquiries with regard to the opening of a shipping canal from Calcutta to the sea and may I know what happened to that scheme?

Shri Buragohain: I have not got the information with me; I should like to have notice of that question too.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the navigable waterways in India?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is too wide a question. Next question.

Coorg

*2074. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to include Coorg within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Mysore;

(b) if so, when this proposal is to be given effect to; and

(c) whether it is proposed to bring any other branch of the administration of Croog into the administrative structure of Mysore?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Government have under consideration a proposal to extend the jurisdiction of the Mysore High Court to Coorg.

(c) No other such proposal is at present under consideration.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know when it is likely to materialise?

Shri Rajagopalachari: If the reference is to the Mysore High Court taking over the work, most part of the consultation is over and we are waiting for the Government of Mysore to agree.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I know whether this proposal is a prelude to the merger of Coorg in Mysore?

Shri Rajagopalachari: This proposal has nothing to do with the merger. It is merely a question of disposal of judicial matters.

Shri Venkataraman: Is it not a fact that at present appeals lie to the Madras High Court and if so, what is the special difficulty felt by the Coorg Administration to have this transferred to the Mysore High Court?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is true that now the appeals lie to the Madras High Court. But the Chief Commissioner made the proposal and the Coorg Legislative Council supported the proposal and actually adopted a resolution making a recommendation to the Government of India to this effect. It is not possible for us to go behind that.

Deportation of Nationals of Foreign Countries

*2075. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred question No. 1510 asked on the 16th February 1951, regarding deportation of nationals of foreign countries and state:

(a) the number of nationals of each foreign country who have been so deported; and

(b) the grounds on which orders of deportation were made?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). A

statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The number of nationals of each foreign country who have been deported and the grounds on which orders of deportation were made.

Number of persons deported from India during 1950	Nationality	Reasons for deportation
18	Tribal Pathan	Criminal activities including traffic in women and smuggling, unauthorised entry into the country and overstayal of authorised period of stay.
1	Burmese	
1	Iraqi	
1	French	
2	Chinese	
2	Portugese (Native of Goa)	
5	Tibetan	
1	Afghan	
1	Yeman	
32		

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know the number of foreign nationals who were deported for illicit traffic in women?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have given a fairly full statement. Five persons have been asked to go away on account of undesirable activities in the immoral traffic line.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether any foreign nationals have been deported for espionage?

Shri Rajagopalachari: No, Sir. A good number have been deported for criminal activities, a few for immoral traffic, as I have already stated, and quite a few for smuggling. No question of spying has come up here.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What were the commodities that were being smuggled for which they have been deported?

Shri Rajagopalachari: So far as smuggling goes, there is only one case in the list. The commodity is not in my paper just now. But, it may not be quite right to go into very great details about foreigners who have been sent away.

Shri Ghule: May I know the nationality of the five persons who have been deported for illicit traffic in women?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Not Europeans, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

HINDI PUBLICATIONS

*2076. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on Hindi publications issued by the Publications Division during 1950?

(b) What was the income from the sale of these publications?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Accounts are not maintained according to Calendar years. The estimated expenditure, excluding cost of establishment and paper where supplied by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, during 1950-51 is Rs. 70,392.

(b) Income from sales and advertisements during 1950-51 is estimated at Rs. 89,724.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the hon. Minister is in a position to say what is the pay of the Chief Editor of Hindi Publications in comparison with the pay of the Editor of the English Publications, and if the two salaries are not equal, do Government propose to bring them to parity?

Shri Diwakar: The scales are the same.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the percentage of expenditure incurred on Hindi publications as compared to the expenditure on English publications?

Shri Diwakar: The difference is very much just now. I may assure the House that Hindi publications are being attended to more and more and as compared to last year, the expenditure on pamphlets is something like double.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether all the Hindi publications issued by the Publications Division were printed in our Government Press?

Shri Diwakar: I am not sure about it.

ACTIVITIES OF COMMUNIST PARTY

*2077. **Shri Venkataraman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain statements in the Press by the Communist Party and the Hindu Mahasabha challenging certain statements made by the hon. Minister in the course of the debate in Parliament on the Preventive Detention Bill?

(b) What action do Government propose to take in this behalf?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). My answer would have to be rather long and include quotations from the policy statements of one of the parties referred to and so I have placed it on the Table of the House in the form of a statement. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 34.]

Shri Sondhi: The statement may be read, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: No supplementaries, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: He has laid a statement. It may be read and then questions may be put.

Shri Sondhi: Can I ask one supplementary question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: On a statement, generally, we do not allow supplementaries.

Shri Sidhva: This is not a statement of that kind.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have given the reason why I have placed it on the Table. It is too long to take the time of the House.

Shri Sondhi: I wanted one piece of information.

Mr. Speaker: There are several others who will require one piece of information and it would be a debate. Next question.

BHOPAL SECURITIES OF 1968

*2078. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the Bhopal Securities of 1968 bearing three percent interest free of Income-tax are approved securities under the Insurance Act of 1937?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): I presume the hon. Member is referring to the Government of Bhopal three per cent. loan 1966-76. They are approved Securities under the Insurance Act.

RECRUITMENT

*2079. **Shri Nandkishore Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as a measure of economy, a circular was issued by Government to different Government departments to stop recruitment to all posts lying vacant;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the response to this circular?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). Ministry of Home Affairs issued a Circular on the 5th November, 1950 not stopping all recruitment to vacancies but laying down that vacancies unfilled for three months or more should not be filled except with the personal sanction of the Secretary of the Ministry concerned or, in cases of vacancies in posts other than those in Class I carrying pay below Rs. 500 in offices outside the Ministry, of the Heads of such offices. The Financial officers attached to the various Ministries would notice any infringement of this circular.

Shri Nandkishore Das: May I know which Ministries or Departments of Government have respected this Circular and which Departments have not?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The substance of my answer is that every one of them may be presumed to have respected this Circular.

ALLOCATION OF INCOME-TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

*2080. **Shri Nandkishore Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deshmukh Award regarding allocation of Income-tax contributions among the different States still holds the field; and

(b) whether Government have appointed a Finance Commission provided for in the Constitution to go into the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Commission will be appointed only after legislation setting out the qualifications required for the members of the Commission has been enacted.

IRRIGATION PROJECTS

*2081. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state what measures are being taken to encourage smaller irrigation projects in the country?

(b) Has any survey been made for the purpose?

(c) If not, do Government propose to suggest to the State Governments and especially to Part 'B' and 'C' States to undertake such surveys and implement them by giving priority to such projects in view of the existing food situation in the country?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The Central Government are granting subsidies and loans to the State Governments under the "Grow More Food" Scheme for projects which would produce quick results. Two statements are laid on the Table of the House showing, (i) the financial assistance rendered by the Central Government to the State Governments for minor irrigation works during 1950-51 and (ii) the types of irrigation works for which the assistance has been rendered. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 35.]

(b) and (c). Irrigation works including minor irrigation schemes, are the sole responsibility of the State Governments concerned and the Government of India presume that the State Governments are alive to the importance of minor irrigation schemes and must be making adequate surveys for the purpose.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: Sir may I know what amount of money is proposed to be spent in all these minor irrigation projects?

Shri Buragohain: That is a matter for the State Governments concerned, Sir.

REPORT OF INCOME-TAX INVESTIGATION TRIBUNAL

*2082. **Shri Hussain Imam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Report of the Income-tax Investigation Tribunal, (latest report para. III B)?

(b) Is it a fact that some Managing Agents have manipulated the accounts of their companies as instanced therein?

(c) If so, do Government propose to lay on the Table of the House the names of the Managing Agents and the Companies concerned?

(d) What further action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Section 54 of the Indian Income-tax Act and section 8(8) of the Taxation on Income (Investigation Commission) Act prohibit the disclosure of particulars relating to assessment proceedings or relating to the investigation of their cases by the Income-tax Investigation Commission. Even the names of assessees cannot under the law be published.

(d) Government propose to promote an amendment of section 54 of the Income Tax Act so that it may be possible to publish particulars of assessees who have defaulted or on whom penalties for concealment of income have been imposed. A copy of the Report of the Investigation Commission has also been forwarded to the Company Law Committee, which will no doubt consider the problem in all its relevant aspects. Any further action by Government must necessarily await the recommendations of this Committee.

Shri Hussain Imam: Sir, has the attention of Government been drawn to the recent judgment of the Bombay High Court in the Sakseria case in which the High Court has recommended action by the Government?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I cannot say, Sir, that I personally have seen this particular case; but it may be that at the time the attention of Government was drawn to it.

PREFAB HOUSES

*2083. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prefab houses manufactured and erected by the Government Housing Factory Delhi have been sold to the Ministry of Rehabilitation;

(b) if so, the number and their total price;

(c) the basis on which the cost has been computed;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Mulgaonkar Committee has reported that the panels are neither strong nor sound nor durable, and that the houses erected in the Factory are unsafe for human inhabitation;

(e) the reasons for selling these houses for the use of displaced persons; and

(f) how many of these houses have cracked, and how many are already occupied or proposed to be put to use for displaced persons habitation?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Attention is invited to my reply to Starred Question No. 1175 dated the 5th February, 1951.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

Shri Kamath: Sir, in the note under Supplementary Demand No. 98, it is mentioned in connection with the Housing Factory that—

> "During this period recoveries from sale of houses amounting only to Rs. 5·73 lakhs have been taken in reduction of expenditure, being the value of buildings erected by the factory for the Najafgarh Health Unit and some residential quarters for refugees etc."

If that be so, how can she reconcile this with the reply now given to part (a) of the question that no sales have taken place?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, as far as the displaced persons are concerned, 24 houses were put up for them in the Jungpura area, but the moment the breakage of panels in the factory began to be high, the sale of these houses was stopped immediately. And just now the only proposition which is being considered by the Ministry of Rehabilitation is as to whether they can use some of these houses and ask for rent from them. That is all. It is not the intention to sell them to the public. In the matter of the other houses which have been put up, those in the factory staff colony, the Najafgarh Health Unit and the 12 houses at Chawla, credit for the sale of these has been taken by the housing factory because these houses were either supplied to the factory itself or to a Department of Government, and the sales only represent book adjustments and no houses have been sold to the public.

Shri Kamath: Does the transfer by book entry mean that these houses will not be used for habitation of the refugees or for any other human purpose?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: They are being used, I mean the houses in the housing colony and also the houses in Chawla. I have been to see them quite recently myself; and the Najafgarh houses will be used the moment the arrangement for water supply to these houses is ready

Shri Kamath: Sir, is it not a fact that the Mulgaonkar Committee categorically recommended that these houses are unsafe for human habitation and should not be sold to any human being?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Mulgaonkar Committee has recommended that they should not be sold; but even before the Mulgaonkar Committee's recommendation, Government had already decided that these houses should not be sold. Those houses that had been erected which could be used to satisfy government needs are being used and there is no danger of their falling down. They are perfectly all right at the moment.

Shri Kamath: But, Sir, in view of the fact that the hon. Minister herself has said that these houses were not to be sold to the public, how is it that these are being used for the purpose of human habitation? That is the point.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: For this reason that these houses that were put up at Najafgarh, Chawla and in the factory were put up at a time when the breakages in the panels were not high and they have, up to the present moment, been fairly good. One or two cracks have appeared, but according to experts, there is no danger of the houses falling down and therefore they are being used.

Shri Sondhi: Sir, is it not a fact that as many as 20 houses were erected at Najafgarh Primary Health Unit as long back as six months and on account of several breakages coming one after another, these houses are still incomplete?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That is not so. They are not incomplete. Some of the panels had to be changed because of cracks, and as.....

Shri Sondhi: But is the .....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let him not interrupt the reply. First the hon. Member will completely hear the reply and then put further questions if need be.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The houses in Chawla are quite complete as far as I am aware. The Najafgarh houses are also complete, but I stand open to correction, it may be that one or two of the houses are not complete because factory work has been stopped.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that the houses at Najafgarh have not been occupied at all and as early as last week the Health Ministry was written to by the Public Health Department of Delhi that they are not complete and must be immediately completed?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As I have said, the Chawla houses are occupied. The houses at Najafgarh are not being used because of the lack of water supply and will be occupied when this is arranged for.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Sir, in order to put the factory under a caretaker management, have Government appointed another committee? And has an attempt been made to retrench the staff on which we are spending more than Rs. 50,000 a month?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The matter is under the active consideration of Government.

Shri Kamath: Sir, as regards parts (b) and (c), the reply is that they do not arise. But how is it that in the note I have already referred to, it has been stated that a sum of Rs. 5·73 lakhs has been calculated as the total cost of the houses sold to the Najafgarh Health Unit and for some quarters for refugees? On what basis was this cost computed?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No houses have been sold to the public. Only book adjustments have been made and they were made on the basis of Rs. 3,600 per house in the staff colony, Rs. 4,100 for the Najafgarh houses and Rs. 4,200 for Chawla.

Shri Kamath: Sir, one of the terms of reference of the Mulgaonkar Committee.....

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

Shri Sonavane: Sir, I want to raise two points of order.....

Mr. Speaker: He may raise them one by one.

Shri Sonavane: My first point of order is this. In view of Rule 174 may I ask whether the Chair was right in not taking cognizance of my point of order during the question hour?

Mr. Speaker: I might dispose of it at once. The Chair is perfectly in order in doing that. If a Member wishes to say something in connection with raising a point of order, he need not be allowed to say it at that time.

Shri Sonavane: May I read Rule 174 (2)?

Mr. Speaker: Does it refer to the other point of order?

Shri Sonavane: The same first point.

Mr. Speaker: The first point has been disposed of. He may refer to the second one.

Shri Sonavane: The second point of order is whether such of the Members who are constantly at the back of the Treasury Benches have a right to catch the eye of the Speaker and whether the eye is cast on this side.

Mr. Speaker: That is hardly a point of order. Every Member has a right but no Member has a right to put his fingers in the eyes of the Chair. Only that Member is supposed to catch the eye of the Chair who is called upon and not the others. Therefore, it is that I have been telling hon. Members not to begin putting questions immediately they stand, unless they are called upon by the Chair. I am keeping a close watch. When a dozen, half a dozen or even two Members begin to put questions simultaneously, we cannot go on in the manner in which we ought to go. That is why generally, if I find that some Members are.....

An Hon. Member: Excited.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, excited also, but begin to speak without being called upon, I make it a point to see that they are unable to catch my eye. There is no other intention.

Shri Kamath: Sir, with regard to your ruling, does it mean that if a Member wants to raise a point of order at any stage of the proceedings he may be allowed to raise it not just then, but at a subsequent stage?

Mr. Speaker: He may, if permitted. Even in the case of a point of order it has to be left to the discretion of the Chair. Unless a Member is really going to raise a point of order.....

Shri Kamath: How can you know without hearing him?

Mr. Speaker: Even without hearing, many things can be understood.

Shri Kamath: It is strange.

Mr. Speaker: It may be strange to the hon. Member who wants to insist upon his point but not to the Chair.

Shri Sonavane: Any discretion vested in the Chair.....

Mr. Speaker: His points have been disposed of. We shall now proceed to the next item of business.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Communist Activities in Tripura

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any reports of Communist and other anti-social elements which have for some time been creating trouble in the State of Tripura;

(b) whether any persons have been kidnapped by such anti-social elements;

(c) if any levy is reported to be exacted from the peaceful citizens even for harvesting their crops; and

(d) whether the Sidhai Police Station has been attacked by armed raiders and eight rifles have been taken away by the raiders only within the last two or three days?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). We have been receiving reports that in the Sadar and Khowai Divisions of Tripura anti-social elements have for some time past been creating trouble. Their activities include kidnappings and in some cases it is reported that a levy of cash and grains has been extorted.

(d) Yes, on the 1st March.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been any case where the kidnapped persons have been released on the payment of some ransom to the kidnappers?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am not able to answer it straightaway. I have given the substance of the report I have received but as to whether any person has been ransomed out I will not be able to say just now.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have there been any arrests of these anti-social elements?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir. There have been arrests, recovery of arms and special instructions have been issued to intensify the procedure.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been any clash between the Government forces and the Communist forces?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Sometimes.

Shri A. C. Guha: Any casualties on either side?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Troops were despatched on a recent occasion. I have not got the figures of casualties here but there are likely to be casualties.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if similar anti-social activities have been going on in the State of Manipur?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is it a fact that almost a parallel government has been established in the rural areas of the State of Manipur?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would not admit that at all. No parallel government has been established. It is only a kind of brigandage which is facilitated by the terrain of the country. The jungles help them. They hide themselves in the jungles and they are scoped out now and then by the police and military. They work underground secreting themselves inside the jungles. We can hardly call it a parallel government.

Dr. M. C. Reddy: How many persons have been arrested so far? Is there any evidence that these persons have anything to do with the Communists in that area?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There is some evidence that they are Communists but if any further details as to figures are wanted I would like a question to be put and then I would be able to give the information required.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report emanating from Dibrugarh that some of the arms and ammunition said to have been recovered from the Communists really belonged to a firm?

Shri Rajagopalachari: There is some confusion about that. The firm probably originally owned the dump but that was used by these anti-social elements. They were traced with the assistance of these people but it is a matter for further enquiry.

Shri Barman: Is it a fact that the rice-procurement system is causing much dissatisfaction within the State and the Communists are gaining strength on that account also?

Shri Rajagopalachari: On account of break of communications as a result of the partition and want of roads and rail communications there have been difficulties felt in regard to supplies for sometime past. I may inform the House that we are using air lift for the purpose of meeting the necessary supplies. Every thing is being done to remove the circumstances favourable for Communist activities. But in our country the Communists can find difficult spots somewhere or other for their activities.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What are the steps which Government have been taking to check all these anti-social activities?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The steps are well known—both police and welfare work.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether Government is receiving public co-operation in the States of Manipur and Tripura?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir. A satisfactory amount of cooperation from the villagers is being received. The point to be made in this connection is that it is only success that brings success.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the Government have reasons to believe that these subversive activities carried on in different parts of the country are controlled and co-ordinated from one centre outside the country?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It would not be quite right to put it in that bald

form but they are being appreciated by centres outside the country.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that arms and arms licences have been withdrawn from peaceful citizens?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The process of giving licences for self-defence and the process of withdrawing licences, the question when the risk becomes greater in leaving the weapons with the people than in taking them back—all these have to be considered by Government according to the situation every time. We cannot have a general rule about it. Sometimes if you have arms in the village, it becomes a help to the enemy.

Shri A. C. Guha: In view of the fact that the raiders are getting arms and ammunition from some other region and in view of the fact that the citizens are giving good co-operation to the Government in suppressing these activities, has Government taken any steps to mobilise popular resistance by giving the local people arms and organising them in any way?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Mobilisation consists of a number of things, not necessarily in giving arms.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Civil and Criminal Courts in Delhi

*2060. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state what was the total number of Civil and Criminal courts in Delhi before August 1947 and what is the number now?

(b) Has any additional accommodation been provided for the additional courts and if not, do Government propose to do so?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The total number of Civil and Criminal Courts in Delhi was 30 in 1947. The number has since increased to 39.

(b) Hon. Members are aware of the acute shortage of accommodation in Delhi and the difficulties in the way of new construction.

Prisoners in District Jail, Delhi

*2061. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the average number of prisoners which the District Jail, Delhi has been accommodating during the last one year over and above its capacity according to rules?

(b) Is there any proposal to provide additional accommodation for the increasing number of prisoners and to raise its status to that of the Central Jail and if so, how long will Government take to do so?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The average population of the District Jail during the year 1950 was 1,255 as against the authorised accommodation for 1,075.

(b) Yes. The construction work is expected to commence in 1951-52 and will be spread over a period of three years.

Grants to Universities

*2062. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the amount of grants, Capital, Recurring and Special given to each of the following Universities during the last three financial years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 from the Centre—(i) Delhi University, (ii) Aligarh Muslim University, (iii) Hindu University, Benaras, (iv) Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi, and (v) Gurukul Kangri, Hardwar?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIV, annexure No. 36.] I may add that Jamia Millia and Gurukul Kangri are not yet recognised by Government as Universities.

Ballot Boxes

*2084. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have placed orders with the Telegraph Workshop at Jabbulpore in Madhya Pradesh for preparing ballot boxes for the ensuing general elections?

(b) If so, what will be the cost of each ballot box?

(c) How many ballot boxes will be required for the whole of India?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Approximately 20 lakhs of ballot boxes will be required for the whole of India.

Pension Rules

126. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the new Pension Rules, class I officers are allowed to have as additional pension, any sum calculated on the basis of the emoluments for posts held by such officers temporarily or in officiating capacity;

(b) whether class II and III officers are allowed any pension, ordinary or additional, on the basis of emoluments for posts held by them temporarily or in officiating capacity; and

(c) if not, the reasons for such discrimination?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). No, Sir, except where the post held in an officiating capacity is substantively vacant, in which case the emoluments actually drawn are also taken into account in assessing the pension. The rules for Class II and III officers are the same as those for Class I officers.

(c) Does not arise.

Pension

127. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued new rules for the purpose of liberalising the system of pension;

(b) if so, whether under such rules, officers getting emoluments not higher than Rs. 800 or near about per month would get less than what they were entitled before such liberalisation of Pension Rules; and

(c) if so, the reasons for thus depriving the medium and low-paid officers of the benefit they were getting before such liberalisation and the amount of reduction in each grade?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The main object of the new rules was not to increase the overall pensionary benefits but to introduce, as recommended by the Pay Commission, some provision for the grant of gratuities and pensions to the families in the event of the death of a Government servant. The new rules provide for death gratuities and family pensions but the rates of ordinary retiring pensions have been reduced.

(b) Officers of this category, like other officers, receive a reduced rate of pension but if the value of death benefits calculated on an actuarial basis is taken into account, the overall pensionary benefits would not be less than those admissible under the old rules. In fact they would be slightly better.

(c) Does not arise.

Dollar Position

128. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the dollar position of India on the 31st December, 1950?

(b) How far will our urgently needed imports of foodgrains and other articles diminish this amount of dollars in the year 1951?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs 18 and 19 of my Budget speech and to the information given in the House on the 5th February, 1951, in reply to Starred Question No. 1151. Briefly, the answer is that India does not hold a separate dollar balance. In view of her membership of the sterling area, her dollar earnings are credited to the central gold and dollar reserve of the sterling area as a whole. India can, however, draw on the central reserve to meet all her reasonable dollar requirements including those required for the foodgrains and other purchases which are to be made in 1951. She shares with the other members of the sterling area the general obligation to ensure that the central reserve is not drawn upon at a rate which would jeopardize it.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 12th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH POLAND

*2085. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any move is afoot to have another trade agreement with Poland after the expiry of the previous one in June 1950; and

(b) whether there was any talk between the representatives of India and Poland regarding trade between the two countries in November last?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). As a result of trade talks between the representatives of India and Poland held in November last, trade arrangements were concluded with a view to promoting trade between the two countries during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1951. Copies of the trade letters exchanged are in the Library of the House.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Sir, may I know whether stipulated exports and imports under the agreement were made during last year?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, the position is like this. Both in respect of imports and exports the stipulated maximums were not reached. For instance, on the export side Rs. 25 lakhs worth of raw jute were exported, while according to the stipulated amount it was Rs. 46 lakhs. The export of coir fibre etc. reached very nearly the stipulated figure. Besides raw jute, coir fibre etc. the agreement provided for the export of stipulated quantities

of raw cotton, shellac, mica etc. but there were no actual exports of these commodities. Regarding imports also the actual figure came up to the stipulated figure in respect of coir mattresses and technical instruments but in certain other items the figure was considerably below the stipulated target.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Under the new agreement, is it a fact that there have been only a few changes in the items of exports and imports?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes. On account of the previous experience, the necessary changes have been made. For instance as regards export of raw jute and raw cotton to Poland, according to the new agreement, these have been omitted. Similarly items which could not be imported are also omitted.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Sir, may I know whether there is a favourable balance of trade with Poland?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, except in the current year which shows a small adverse balance.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, may I know whether there is any particular section of the Commerce Ministry or the joint Ministry of Industry and Commerce which is in charge of this matter, to see that the trade agreements are fully fulfilled?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the name of that section?

Shri Karmarkar: I take it that what my hon. friend wants to know is whether there is a section dealing with this particular subject. As my hon. friend knows, there are various sections in the Ministry and different sections deal with different matters. For instance one Joint Secretary is in special charge of international trade agreements and he looks after the whole thing, subject to our guidance.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, may I know whether the deficiencies similar to

those mentioned in this particular instance, are present in other trade agreements also?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I would require notice.

Shri Kamath: Sir, before trade talks opened between India and Poland, for how many years before that there used to be *ad hoc* trade transactions between India and Poland?

Shri Karmarkar: My hon. friend wants to know for how many years we have been having trade with Poland. I should imagine for more than 20 years, in any case. If he wants particular figures of trade, I shall be glad to collect them and give them to him. Last year there was a trade agreement and this year's is a continuation of the agreement of last year.

EDUCATION OF DISPLACED STUDENTS

*2086. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether Government have taken the responsibility to educate displaced students?

(b) If so, have they any comprehensive Plan for the purpose?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. A note on the schemes of financial assistance to displaced students in India and abroad is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 1.]

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Sir, may I know whether scholarships have been provided for the study of engineering and other technical subjects in technical colleges?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, that is mentioned in the note placed on the Table of the House.

Pandit Maitra: Sir, may I enquire from the hon. Minister if Government has got any plan or policy for giving education in technical subjects to these displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, Sir. This has been explained on the floor of the House times out of number. The first part of the plan is that where a student gets admission in.....

Pandit Maitra: Sir, I am not asking for that information. I am just enquiring whether technical schools have been established for the purpose, and secondly whether these displaced students are given facilities for education in medical, engineering and other subjects?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is what I am going to state. The scheme consists of two parts. One is, when the student succeeds in getting admission into an engineering or medical or agricultural college he gets a stipend on the scale prescribed. Besides that this Ministry has provided for vocational technical training for a large number of deserving young displaced persons.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether Government have given any grants for displaced persons from Sind to construct a building for higher education?

Shri A. P. Jain: I believe displaced persons coming from Sind are as much part of the Indian nation as any other person and therefore they are eligible to all the facilities available in all the institutions. Besides, we have given a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for the building of the Jai Hind College at Bombay and we propose to make some further grants to that institution.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is the Government aware that there is not much room for students in the technical institutions even as it is, and displaced students find great difficulty in getting admission, and may I know what steps are being taken by Government to meet this difficulty?

Shri A. P. Jain: Government is already giving vocational and technical training to about 15,000 young displaced persons through the technical institutions of the Labour Ministry and there are also some technical institutions in the Ministry of Rehabilitation at the Centre and under the State Governments also.

BHOPAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

*2087. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 424 on the 28th November 1950 and state whether the report of the Commission appointed by the Rajasthan Government to inquire into the affairs of the Bhopal Co-operative Society for houses built in Udaipur has been received?

(b) What are the reasons for 33 houses not being occupied as yet?

(c) What was the amount of loan paid to the Society and how much of it has been used for construction, and has any account been rendered to Government by the Society?

(d) Has any instalment been paid by the Society towards the loan amount?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No. Enquiry is still proceeding.

(b) 24 mud houses collapsed during the rains and 9 houses are unoccupied because they are incomplete and partially damaged.

(c) (i) Rs. 4 lakhs were advanced to the Society by the Mewar Government. A loan of Rs. 25 lakhs was paid by the Government of India in addition to the above. Another loan of Rs. 5 lakhs has been sanctioned but not yet paid to the State Government.

(ii) The Society spent about Rs. 14 lakhs on construction work.

(iii) The accounts of the Society are being scrutinised by the Enquiry Commission.

(d) No.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, the reasons why Government have taken such a long time to get this matter enquired into, and whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that there have been defalcations in this matter?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have to admit with regret that the affairs of this society have been in a pretty mess. To begin with, the Rajasthan Government began to enquire into this matter. But the process adopted by that Government was slow and to my mind unsatisfactory. When I visited Udaipur last time, about six months back, I came to the conclusion that some strict measures were necessary and I deputed an officer from the Centre and also an officer from the Ministry of Finance to go into this matter and they both have submitted reports which are under scrutiny. I confess that even a preliminary study of the reports gives us the feeling that quite a number of persons combined together to make benefit out of the funds of the society and the whole matter requires strong handling.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, in view of the revelations and facts which the hon. Minister has been good enough to make, is he going to take this matter up himself or is he going to let the Rajasthan Government complete the enquiry? I first put the question on this matter on 4th August and I was told that it would be enquired into very soon. Again on the 20th of November I put a question on this subject and the reply was that the matter was being expedited. And even to-day we learn that the matter is not yet complete. In view of all this, will the hon. Minister himself take up the matter and expedite the disposal of this question and let the House know the result?

Shri A. P. Jain: As I said I had deputed two officers and they have submitted a report. Certain things have to be done in consultation with the Rajasthan Government. The report has been sent to the Rajasthan Government for their comment. I have after all to proceed in a constitutional manner and I cannot ride roughshod over everybody else. I can however assure the House that so far as I am concerned as also my Ministry is concerned I will not allow the matter to be delayed or postponed.

Shri Sidhva: What are the suggestions of those officers appointed by the Minister?

Mr. Speaker: Let us proceed to the next question. He has already said that their report is under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: With your permission, Sir, I shall put one more question. May I know at whose instance was this loan granted? Was any security taken?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Central Government advanced the loan to the Rajasthan Government on the security of the revenues of the Rajasthan Government. In their turn the Rajasthan Government advanced that loan to the society on the security of the assets of the society.

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES IN LAJPAT NAGAR

*2088. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how many houses have been built in Lajpat Nagar and how many have been allotted so far?

(b) In how many cases have filtered water taps been provided?

(c) Is electricity provided in these houses?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 2,398 single roomed tenements, 250 double roomed tenements, and in all 20 two-roomed houses have been constructed in Lajpat Nagar. 2,329 single-roomed tenements, all the double-roomed tenements and 14 two-roomed houses have been allotted.

(b) No water taps have been provided. 59 hand pumps have been installed in various blocks. In addition, there are 6 wells in this area from which the residents draw water, which is reported potable.

(c) No.

Shri Sidhva: What is the difficulty in giving water taps for drinking purposes, since as many as 2,000 houses have been built there?

Shri A. P. Jain: That requires the construction of water works and when they are constructed it will be possible to give water taps.

Shri Sidhva: Is it contemplated to construct a water reservoir?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is contemplated to construct a water reservoir but I am not in a position to state how many taps will be provided and whether they will be provided for each family.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether individual members are also given houses or they are given only to societies or associations?

Shri A. P. Jain: Houses are given to individual members.

Shri Sidhva: Besides societies and associations?

Mr. Speaker: Yes: he has already said it.

RECRUITMENT OF GURKHAS

*2089. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the recruitment of Gurkhas of Indian nationality has been stopped by the Government of the United Kingdom?

(b) If so, since when has their recruitment been stopped?

(c) How many Gurkhas of Indian nationality are still in the British Army?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The recruitment was stopped early in 1950.

(c) The exact figure is not known. According to the information available, the number is small and consists chiefly of clerks, motor drivers and nurses.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that some Gurkhas of Indian nationality were recruited to the British army until early 1950, may I know whether they were recruited according to some agreement or whether that agreement has now been rescinded?

Dr. Keskar: As my hon. friend is aware the recruitment of Gurkhas is subject to an agreement between the Government of India, the Government of Nepal and the Government of the United Kingdom. Whatever recruitment has been taking place in certain recruitment centres in India has been according to this agreement. What happened was that we came to know that a certain number of Gurkhas who were Indian nationals were being recruited. When we brought it to the notice of the U.K. Government they told us that they had done it by mistake and that hereafter no Gurkha of Indian nationality would be recruited.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether India will continue to be a party to the agreement between the U.K., the Government of Nepal and India, which provides for the recruitment of Gurkha soldiers, who are used by the British Government to suppress Asian peoples in several British dependencies?

Dr. Keskar: There is now a certain agreement between the three countries. Whenever Government considers that the usefulness of that agreement is no more, certainly we will withdraw ourselves from that agreement.

Shri A. B. Gurung: May I know why the recruitment of Gurkhas for the U.K. Government is permitted in centres in Indian soil?

Dr. Keskar: That is for facilitating the method of recruitment and not for anything else.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the attention of my hon. friend has been drawn to a statement of the Foreign Secretary of U.K. Government stating that they are going to recruit more Gurkhas? Will they be Gurkhas of Indian nationality or Nepalese nationality?

Mr. Speaker: They cannot be Indian nationals. They have already admitted the mistake and said that they would not repeat it.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if there are Gurkhas of Indian nationality at present engaged under the British army in Malaya? If so, what is their position and what do Government propose doing in regard to their continued employment in the British army?

Dr. Keskar: I cannot say if there are any Gurkhas of Indian nationality who opted for the British army at the time of the partition of the Gurkha forces between India and the U.K. If my hon. friend wants the information I would try to get it. But Gurkhas recruited after this tripartite agreement came into force are very, very few and most of them, as I said, are clerks and motor drivers.

GAZETTE OF INDIA (RECEIPT BY ADDRESSEES)

*2091. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that copies of the Gazette of India, and particularly of its Extraordinary issues, are sometimes received by the addressees in Delhi and New Delhi 10 to 15 days after the date of their publication; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps are proposed to be taken to eliminate this delay?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Yes. A few instances have been brought to the notice of Government.

(b) Ministries have been requested to send materials for publication sufficiently in advance in order to eliminate delay in printing. The capacity of the Presses is limited, especially during the session of Parliament. With the opening of a new press at Nasik, rush of work at the Delhi/Simla Presses will be reduced and such delays will be minimised.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Does the delay take place in the printing of the copies of the Gazette owing to want of adequate printing machinery or in their distribution to addressees? If both factors are responsible, which of the two can be eliminated sooner than the other?

Shri Buragohain: With regard to the first part, the answer is yes, as I have already said. With regard to the latter part of the question, the real difficulty arises out of the fact that the Ministries indenting state in their requisition a date to appear in the gazette in order to satisfy statutory obligations in some cases. Therefore we have to antedate some of the issues.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that sometimes the gazettes are received nearly a fortnight after the alleged date of their publication?

Shri Buragohain: It is so. Recently we have taken certain steps. As I have already explained, the reason is that there are certain statutory obligations regarding the date. But I may inform the House that since the beginning of this month there has been no delay.

POWER ALCOHOL

*2092. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of power alcohol manufactured in India from molasses during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) its average cost of production per gallon; and

(c) how far the experiment of mixing this with petroleum has proved successful and helped to ease the petroleum requirements of this country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The quantity of power alcohol manufactured from molasses is:

1948.—37,76,335 gallons.
1949.—42,29,959 gallons.
1950.—44,97,333 gallons.

(b) The cost of production in U.P. works out to annas -/12/- per gallon. In other producing States, the cost price varies slightly according to the prevalent price of molasses and coal.

(c) Petrol/Power alcohol mixture in the ratio of 80:20 has been found as efficient as straight petrol.

In 1950, nearly 40 lakh gallons of petrol have been saved by using the admixture.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it the policy of the Government to encourage consumption of mixed power alcohol with petrol?

Shri Mahtab: That is the policy.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is it a fact that from molasses Eastlyne can be manufactured, which has great food value?

Shri Mahtab: I cannot say that.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know if this power alcohol is used for military vehicles also in the Defence Ministry?

Shri Mahtab: It is used in all motor vehicles, including military vehicles also.

Shri V. J. Gupta: May I know whether all the power alcohol factories, which do not manufacture sugar also, complained to the Government and asked Government to control the price of molasses and divert the same from the sugar factories to the power alcohol factories?

Shri Mahtab: I did not follow the question.

Shri V. J. Gupta: Some power alcohol factories are not manufacturing sugar. As such they have to buy the molasses from the sugar factories. These sugar factories are selling the molasses at a very high cost, and the power alcohol factories are suffering because they are not getting the products easily. Therefore.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know how far this power alcohol has affected adversely the durability of the engine?

Shri Mahtab: In the initial stages there was some complaint but after experiments we found that admixture in the percentage of 80:20 does not do any damage to the engine.

PENICILLIN

*2093. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the quantity and value of Penicillin and other sulpha drugs imported into India during the years 1949 and 1950 and how much of them was imported from soft and hard currency areas respectively?

(b) What progress has been made so far by the Government of India for the establishment of a factory for the manufacture of penicillin and other sulpha drugs and would such a factory be State-owned?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Information regarding the quantity and value of Penicillin and Sulpha Drugs annually imported is not available as these items are not separately recorded in the Indian Sea-Borne Trade Accounts. From the beginning of 1950, however, statistics regarding the monthly imports of certain essential drugs are being collected by Government and the information available regarding imports during the year 1950 is as follows:

Item	Import from Hard currency areas	
	Quantity	Value
Penicillin	31,23,000 Mega Units.	Rs. 144 lakhs.
Sulpha Drugs	13,400 lbs.	Rs. 2·4 lakhs.

Item	Import from Soft currency areas	
	Quantity	Value
Penicillin	34,41,770 Mega Units.	Rs. 89 lakhs.
Sulpha Drugs	2,32,960 lbs. approx.	Rs. 39 lakhs.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 2.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what is the answer in respect of my question whether Government intends to have a factory for the manufacture of these drugs?

Shri Gadgil: Yes, that is so.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: What are the particulars of that scheme? This answer does not give any information.

Shri Gadgil: It will require quite a lot of time to state the particulars, but the statement that I have laid on the Table will give the hon. Member a sufficient idea of the whole thing.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is a fact that our scientists have discovered an equivalent as efficient as penicillin from Indian drugs, and if so, do Government propose to take up its production?

Mr. Speaker: I think he is giving some information contained in today's papers.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Government factory which has been started is manufacturing any quantity of sulpha drugs just at present?

Shri Gadgil: The position is that the preliminaries with respect to the erection of that factory are over, but actual contracts have not yet been signed because there is an offer from the W.H.O. That offer is being considered by the Government of India.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will it be a fully Government-owned factory or will there be some private participation also in it?

Shri Gadgil: Whatever be the result one thing is certain, that it will be a Government-controlled factory.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

*2094. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred for the displaced persons from East Bengal since 1947 onwards year by year; and

(b) what is the allotment for 1951, and under what items of expenditure?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):

(a) 1947-48—Rs. 4 lakhs.

1948-49—Rs. 2·49 crores.

1949-50—Rs. 3;97 crores.

1950-51 (upto Dec. 1950)—Rs. 9·50 crores.

Total Rs. 16 crores approx.

(b) 13.25 crores.

Relief and Rehabilitation grants.—Rs. 7·64 crores.

Loans.—Rs. 5·61 crores.

Shri Barman: What is the total number of refugees that have already been rehabilitated and what is the number that remains to be rehabilitated?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have given the figures of those who have been rehabilitated more than once in this House. Speaking from memory, their number would be more than twelve lakhs. Of the remaining, some may have rehabilitated themselves. It is difficult for me to give the number of those who yet require to be rehabilitated, except about 1¼ lakh persons who are living in camps. These have to be rehabilitated. Of these 1¼ lakhs in the whole of the eastern region, I believe about 70,000 are in West Bengal.

Shri Barman: What is the number of refugees that have rehabilitated themselves or who have been rehabilitated by Government on migrants' lands, and what is the total acreage of such land under use of these refugees?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got the exact figures with me and I would not like to hazard figures from memory.

Shri Barman: Have Government any alternative proposal for rehabilitating those refugees who may be ousted when any migrant Muslim may return and demand his land?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, I am sure the hon. Member knows that the West Bengal Government is very vigilant, and when a refugee who has been settled on a migrant's land is evicted from that land, he will be given some alternative land.

Shri Chaliha: May I know the expenditure incurred on displaced persons in Assam during that period?

Shri A. P. Jain: For Assam, in 1949-50 it was Rs. 1·89 lakhs, and in 1950-51 (up to November/December) it was Rs. 25·86 lakhs.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सभापति जी, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो रुपयों का हिसाब दिया गया है उन में से कितने रुपये प्रबन्ध में खर्च हुए हैं और कितने सीधे शरणार्थियों के हाथों में पहुंचे हैं ?

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh: I want to know as to what amount, out of the amount accounted for, has been spent by way of expenditure on administration and what amount has gone direct into the hands of the refugees.]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : उन के हाथ में जो कर्ज है वह दिया गया है और रिलीफ का भी ज्यादातर हिस्सा उन के हाथ में दिया गया है। लेकिन वह आंकड़ इकट्ठा करने में बहुत समय लगेगा। इस वक्त मेरे पास वह पुस्तकें नहीं हैं जिन से हिसाब किताब इकट्ठा किया जा सके।

[Shri A. P. Jain: The loans have gone into their hands and the greater portion of the amount meant for relief has also reached them. The collection of these figures would, however, involve a good deal of time. I have not with me at this time the books from which the calculations might be made.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Of the twelve lakhs that have been rehabilitated, may I know how many are in West Bengal, and how many in Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Tripura?

Shri A. P. Jain: Twelve lakhs is the figure for West Bengal only.

Shri A. C. Guha: And how many in the other areas?

Shri A. P. Jain: Again, Sir, I have given exact figures in this House more than once, and I am not expected to remember all those figures.

Pandit Maitra: Arising out of part (b), may I enquire of the hon. Minister if it is the policy of the Government to make any *ad hoc* grant to municipalities and district boards or even to union boards where there are large concentrations of refugees for whom these institutions cater?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is not the policy of the Government to make *ad hoc* grants to municipalities or district boards, but in exceptional cases—I remember one or two cases—we have given some sort of assistance.

Shri Kamath: Is the Minister in a position to give an idea of the *per capita* expenditure incurred by the West Bengal and the East Bengal Governments on the returning migrants from either State?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as West Bengal is concerned, we give an *ad hoc* grant up to Rs. 200 to a returning migrant wherever he stands in need of it. So far as East Bengal is concerned, we have not got the correct figures, but I understand that of late the East Bengal Government have been giving some assistance.

Shri Kamath: Some. But how much?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got the figures.

EVACUEES' LANDS IN DELHI

*2095. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of agricultural land left behind by evacuees in the State of Delhi;

(b) how much has been allotted to displaced persons; and

(c) the number of families rehabilitated on them?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 17,816 acres.

(b) and (c). 10,319 acres have been allotted to 1,096 displaced families.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is being done with regard to the remaining 7,497 acres?

Shri A. P. Jain: The details relating to them are as follows:

Uncultivable land and lands jointly owned by Muslim evacuees and non-evacuees which were used as pastures —(these are not fit for cultivation).— 3,830 acres.

Lands reserved for the township schemes of the Rehibilitation Ministry —(these are being used for the benefit of the D.Ps.)—778 acres.

Land under the Court of Wards.— 297 acres.

Lands under cultivation of Hindu tenants prior to partition—(with regard to these, it is the policy of Government not to disturb the people).— 1,662 acres.

Area under gardens jointly owned by Muslim evacuees and local Hindus and in the possession of the latter.— 182 acres.

Area under gardens covered by applications for restoration—(this is disputed and therefore we cannot make use of it until the dispute is settled).—194 acres.

Land under cultivation by local cultivators and available for allotment to displaced persons—(this is the only item which can be retrieved and allotted to D.Ps. and that is being done).— 554 acres.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With regard to the reply given to part (a), may I know if the 10,000 and odd acres are under plough or they are uncultivated?

Shri A. P. Jain: To the best of our information, they are under plough.

Sardar B. S. Man: What was the basis of allotment—the size of the family or the size of the holding abandoned in Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not the holding abandoned in Pakistan. Allotment has been made to each of the families on the basis of an average of 10 acres per family.

EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED STUDENTS

*2096. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred on loans, freeships, educational facilities and stipends given to displaced students so far by Government?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether a Committee has been appointed specially for the education of the displaced persons and if so, what is its report?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know of any such Committee, Sir.

ARMY PRESS, DELHI

*2097. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army Press of Delhi has been declared evacuee property and if so, whether it has been given on lease to some displaced firm;

(b) what are the terms of the lease;

(c) whether it is a fact that some printing machinery belonging to the said Press which was imported in the year 1947 remained undelivered at the Delhi Railway Station for over two years; and

(d) if so, when was the delivery taken and whether that machinery has been disposed of?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes. The Press has been leased out to a combine of six displaced persons.

(b) A copy of the lease deed is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 3.]

(c) Yes. The delay was due to a great extent to the position in regard to this property not having been resolved. There was civil litigation also in the case.

(d) Delivery of the consignment was obtained on 13th May, 1949. One of the machines has been made use of in the Vocational Training Centre at Arab-ki-Sarai. Remaining machines have not yet been disposed of.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What was the amount of demurrage incurred on this machinery?

Shri A. P. Jain: My information is that it comes to about Rs 18,000 but the Custodian is negotiating with the Railway Authorities whether the demurrage should be paid or not.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: When did the information that these machines were lying idle in the Railway Station come to the notice of the Custodian for the first time?

Shri A. P. Jain: This matter came to the notice of the Custodian at a fairly early stage, but there were some very insurmountable and obvious difficulties. This property was declared to be evacuee property only by about the end of December 1948 and the notification was published on the 4th January 1949. Obviously, the Custodian could not take delivery of the machines until they had been declared evacuee property and an appeal was filed before the authorised Custodian and it was decided only by about the end of March. Thereafter, the R. and R. Ministry wanted to take over this consignment and intimation was given that delivery might be taken. Actually, delivery was taken on 13th May, 1949.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that most of the valuable parts of this machinery were pilfered when it was lying in the Railway Station?

Shri A. P. Jain: Those who might have pilfered or those who know about those who have pilfered know it more than me.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I want to put one more question.

Mr. Speaker: There are so many other more important questions.

Dr. Deshmukh: But this is a scandal, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Scandals should not be pursued for long.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Just one more question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the estimated value of the machinery now?

Shri A. P. Jain: An officer has been appointed to evaluate this machinery and until his report comes I am not in a position to state what is the value of the machinery.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will it cover the demurrage amount?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

NEPAL (SUBSIDY)

*2098. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual subsidy of Rs. 10 lakhs which was being paid by India to Nepal Government during the British regime is still being paid to that Government;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, for what specific object it is paid and on what grounds its continuance is justified; and

(c) whether any such payment is made to Sikkim and Bhutan, if so, what is the amount and why is it paid?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). An annual contribution of Rs. 10 lakhs is being paid to Nepal since the year 1919. The object is to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to assist in the general and economic development of Nepal.

(c) Annual subsidies of Rs. 3 lakhs and Rs. 5 lakhs respectively are being paid to Sikkim and Bhutan under the recent Treaties with them. These payments are made in the case of Bhutan in lieu of earlier commitments arising from previous Treaties and in the case of Sikkim to assist in the development of that State.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What is the *quid pro quo* or return which India gets in connection with the payment of these subsidies to Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim?

Dr. Keskar: These are not commercial bargains and there is no question of *quid pro quo*.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Was the question of discontinuance of the Nepal subsidy discussed in connection with the recent negotiations which took place in Delhi with regard to the future of Nepal?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether in addition to the subsidy to Bhutan the Government of India have given 30 sq. miles of area from Assam?

Dr. Keskar: There has been an adjustment of the boundary between Assam and Bhutan. In fact, the Bhutan Government was claiming for a long time that a much larger area

was theirs and should be returned to them. After some negotiations a small area of about 30 sq. miles was returned to them.

CONVICTION OF INDIANS IN MAHE

*2099. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians convicted in Mahe (French India) for taking part in national movement; and

(b) how many of them are undergoing imprisonment?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answers given to supplementary questions arising out of Question No. 4 on the 1st August, 1950 by Shri Kesava Rao and Seth Govind Das.

Shri Jnani Ram: Has there been any improvement since August last year and how does the matter stand at present?

Dr. Keskar: The question is with regard to the number of Indians convicted in Mahe. There can be no question of improvement in this. But I might inform the hon Member that, as stated by me on 1st August 1950, the Government of India drew the attention of the Government of France regarding the unduly heavy sentences passed on Mahe prisoners. We have since received a reply that it is not possible for the French Government to interfere in the sentences, as they are judicial.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the number of persons undergoing imprisonment is the same today as it was in August last, and whether any of those who were imprisoned are also detained under the Detention Acts?

Dr. Keskar: There are a number of persons detained. I cannot say offhand whether they are being detained in connection with the disturbances that took place in Mahe. But a number of persons who have been sentenced are, to the best of my information, still in prison; some who may have been sentenced for a short term may have been released.

HOUSES FOR LABOURERS

*2100. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar mill-owners had agreed to set apart a certain portion of their sale money on molasses for building houses for labourers;

(b) if so, the amount credited for this fund in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the manner in which the money has been spent;

(d) the number of houses built for labourers; and

(e) the amount, if any, spent on any other items?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Enquiries made indicate that arrangements of the kind mentioned by the hon. Member exist only in the Uttar Pradesh where, since 1948, the sugar mills have been crediting to Government the excess over annas 4 pies 3 per md. realised from the open sale of molasses.

(b) 1948-49.—Rs. 12,00,000.
1949-50.—Rs. 30,70,027/15/-.

A sum of Rs. 7,00,000 is likely to be available in respect of 1950-51.

(c) to (e). No money has so far been spent out of these collections which are proposed to be constituted into a statutory fund to be administered under the provisions of the Uttar Pradesh Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund Act, 1951, recently passed by the Uttar Pradesh Legislature.

Shri Jnani Ram: When is this money expected to be spent?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have said, the Act has been passed recently—a week ago. And money will begin to be spent in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Shri Jnani Ram: Has any attempt been made in other States?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No, it has not been made in any other State. In Bihar they are considering the question.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

*2101. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the raw materials which were considered to be short in India by the Development Committee on Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A list is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(1) Steel (particularly pipes and fittings, billets, tin-plate, and bolts and nuts).

(2) Sulphur.

(3) Copper.

(4) Zinc.

(5) Nickel.

(6) Aluminium.

(7) Tin.

(8) Antimony.

(9) Cotton.

(10) Wool and Wool Tops.

(11) Hair yarn (for belting).

(12) Newsprint.

(13) Packing Paper (for manufacture of coated abrasive paper).

(14) Cork.

(15) Timber (for shipbuilding and repair, bobbin industry and railway sleepers).

(16) Wood pulp.

(17) Caustic Soda.

(18) Soda ash.

(19) Bleaching powder.

(20) Phosphorus.

(21) Borax.

(22) Freon gas.

(23) Calcium carbide.

(24) Stearic Acid.

(25) Cryolite.

(26) Casein.

(27) Pottassium chloride.

(28) Carbon Black.

(29) Asbestos fibre.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if the quantities in deficit have been ascertained and if so what steps are going to be taken to produce them in the country?

Shri Mahtab: I have given a list of raw materials which are in short supply. The exact quantities cannot be given. We have set up some panels and they will let us know in course of time their requirements. Efforts are being made to secure them from abroad.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the articles which are partially deficit and those which are totally deficit?

Shri Mahtab: This report will be received soon from the panels which have been set up by the Panels Committee.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any proposal to stockpile essential raw materials in our country?

Shri Mahtab: There is such a proposal.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether India has joined any stockpiling plan with the United States or the United Kingdom?

Shri Mahtab: Recently a meeting of several representatives of some countries was held and some commodity group committees have been set up. India is now on these committees, except one.

NEWSPRINT

*2102. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of newsprint imported in this country during the last three years;

(b) whether U.S.A. has increased its total purchase of newsprint considerably; and

(c) if so, how it will affect the world market in future?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):

(a) Year	Quantity (in tons)
1948-49	57,638
1949-50	44,584
1950-51 (April to December 1950)	42,349

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This has already resulted in a world shortage of supplies and consequential rise in prices.

Shri Kamath: May I point out that I have tabled a Short Notice question related to this subject. That may be taken along with this.

Mr. Speaker: He may put his supplementaries. That question need not be put.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Are the Government aware that the Newsprint Association of Canada which control a very large portion of newsprint supply have stated that the position in 1951 is going to be very tight for the supply of newsprint? If so, have Government made some arrangements for securing adequate supply of newsprint this year?

Shri Mahtab: I can frankly say that there is no prospect of having any supply from Canada for the time being. Therefore, efforts are being made to secure supplies from some other countries and we have been able to secure promises to the extent of about 31,000 tons for the current year.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know how the prices of newsprint, proposed to be

imported from new sources compare with the price of newsprint in Canada?

Shri Mahtab: The prices are not known yet; we are anxious to have supply according to our requirements.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The hon. Minister in reply to part (c) of the question stated that prices have gone up. May I know to what extent prices have gone up?

Shri Mahtab: The price only two years back was about £35 to 38 per ton: now it is more than £100 per ton.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that in the course of his speech in Calcutta on the 6th March 1951, while opening the Cigarette Paper Mill at Tribeni, the Minister stated that India's newsprint stocks would be completely exhausted on the eve of the General Elections? If so, what steps Government propose to take to remedy this state of affairs?

Shri Mahtab: That is a fact. If no further supplies come, the stocks will only last for four or five months more. The stock in India at present is only 19,500 tons, while average consumption per month is about 5,000 tons. About the steps taken, we are arranging with some other countries to give us as much as they can and we have been able to secure promises to the extent of about 31,000 tons.

Shri Kamath: Is there any apprehension that on that account the General Elections will be postponed?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the quota of newsprint supply will be further curtailed during the next quarter of this year?

Shri Mahtab: May be further curtailed. It is with that end in view, in order to create an atmosphere in favour of that cut, that I placed that fact before the public.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what is the average consumption of newsprint in the year?

Shri Mahtab: About 60,000 tons.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society represented to the Government more than a year back drawing its attention to the scarcity of newsprint and made certain recommendations? If so, what action was taken on those recommendations?

Shri Mahtab: The recommendations of the Newspaper Society have been accepted in full and it is in accordance with their recommendations that the recent control has been introduced.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: The information given by the hon. Minister is wrong.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member should not contradict it here. He should point it out to the hon. Minister and if he is convinced that he is wrong, he will make a statement about it. Mr. Alva.

Shri Joachim Alva: I am prepared to yield my precedence to my elder brother in profession.

According to the reported move of Government for stock-piling, is newsprint one of the items to be stock-piled?

Shri Mahtab: The question of stock-piling will arise only if there is availability of stock. If the hon. Member can suggest the sources where it is available, I am prepared to consider the question of stock-piling of newsprint.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: When the hon. Minister said that the recommendations of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society had been accepted, was he referring to the recent recommendation? My point was that the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society as early as a year and a half back had made recommendations that in view of its scarcity, newsprint should be controlled. What action was taken by Government on that recommendation?

Shri Mahtab: If the hon Member refers to past history, I would refer him to still earlier history. In 1948 there was plenty of supply of newsprint. The Newspaper Society did not make any attempt to secure supplies. If they had done so, there would have been no difficulty now.

Export of Surgical Dressings

*2103. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of surgical dressings exported from India during the first half of 1950?

(b) What was the corresponding export during the first half of 1949?

(c) What are the principal countries to which these goods are exported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 60 tons 18 cwts. and 14 lbs. of surgical dressings were exported from India during the first half of 1950.

(b) 84 tons 10 cwts. 3 qrs. and 6 lbs. in addition to the export of the value of Rs. 10,470 during the first half of 1949.

(c) The principal countries to which surgical dressings are exported are Burma, Ceylon, Thailand, Federation of Malaya, Straits Settlements, Zanzibar, Iraq, Hongkong, West and East Pakistan, Tanganyika Territory, China and Afghanistan.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the names and location of the firms that produce these dressings?

Shri Karmarkar: I would require notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether there was any import of these dressings in 1950?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir, as far as I am aware, except of a very few special varieties.

Skardu Garrison

*2104. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Skardu garrison which was taken prisoner by the Pakistan Army at the beginning of the Kashmir fighting has been repatriated?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The garrison was repatriated in May, 1950.

Dr. M. M. Das: What was the original strength of the garrison before its fall, what was the number taken prisoner and what is the number repatriated?

Dr. Keskar: I would not be able to give the strength of the garrison offhand. But I might inform my hon. friend that the personnel taken prisoner were about forty of whom nearly half were only followers and not military personnel.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the number of deaths that took place under captivity? Have Government any information?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice. I can get it if my hon. friend wants it.

Scheme *re* Preservation of Wood

*2105. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have finalised their decision on the scheme submitted by Dr. Kamesam, for the preservation of wood?

(b) Is it a fact that some private firms are willing to establish factories for the preservation of wood according to the formula submitted by Dr. Kamesam?

(c) Has the formula submitted by Dr. Kamesam proved to be practical and effective?

(d) Do Government propose to buy the patent right of Dr. Kamesam's formula?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only one private firm has shown willingness to give Dr. Kamesam's preservative a trial.

(c) No incontrovertible evidence is yet available about the efficacy of Dr. Kamesam's preservative.

(d) Government have not yet come to any decision.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any method of preservation of wood has been evolved as a result of research work carried on in our Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun?

Shri Mahtab: Several experiments are going on, but no experiment has yet been proved conclusively effective.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any method of preservation of wood is practised by the Government of India?

Shri Mahtab: Apart from the ascu method which has been discovered there are several methods—I forget the names of those methods—and in some of the hydro-electric projects these methods are put in operation.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether Government have enquired about the present condition of the structures put up by Dr. Kamesam with ascu treated timber in Travancore?

Shri Mahtab: I know all about Dr. Kamesam's method. He is in correspondence with me. Government at one time offered him a loan of Rs. 2,000 and selected a site for the purpose. But he has not taken advantage of it because of the condition attached to it. There is correspondence going on between him and Government and I am also carrying on personal correspondence with him.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: May I know whether it is a fact that the Mysore Government got a bridge built with this kind of wood and it did not prove a success?

Shri Mahtab: That is a fact.

Journals published by Ministries

*2106. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of journals, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, etc., published in the year 1950 by the different Ministries of the Government of India;

(b) the total annual cost of publications of all these journals;

(c) what per cent. of the cost is recovered by the sale of these journals; and

(d) which is the Ministry which has (i) the largest number of journals and (ii) the smallest number?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) 57.

(b) Rs. 26,02,450/4/-.

(c) 67 per cent. approximately.

(d) (i) Ministry of Commerce and Industry, (ii) Some Ministries do not issue any journals and several others issue only one journal each.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the exact purpose of Government in publishing and distributing these journals and how far that purpose has been served?

Shri Buragohain: The purpose is mainly to give information and knowledge about the working of the different branches of Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the economy drive of the Government has affected these publications in any way?

Shri Buragohain: Not so far, Sir.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the number of journals published by a Ministry varies directly or inversely with the efficiency of the Ministry?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: As it was stated that the purpose of publishing these journals was to give a knowledge of the departments of Government, may I know whether these publications are sent to the Members of Parliament at least?

Shri Buragohain: The distribution of these publications is done according to rules. Some are sent to Members of Parliament free, others are priced publications, and some are placed in the Parliament Library.

Swedish Pre-fab Huts

***2107. Shri Ghule:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply,** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any civil suit has been started against the Swedish firm which supplied the pre-fab huts, which were not according to the order; and

(b) if so, when and what is the amount for which the suit has been filed?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No, but in accordance with the conditions of the contract, the matter has been referred to arbitration.

(b) The claim was filed before the arbitrators on 28th December 1950. Meanwhile representations of the Supplies have approached the Government for a settlement out of Court, and arbitration proceedings have been postponed.

Shri Ghule: May I know the reason why the idea of launching a suit against the firm has been abandoned?

Shri Gadgil: Precisely because there is a clause in the contract which requires recourse to arbitration before the matter is taken to a civil court.

Shri Ghule: May I know the probable date by which the matter would end?

Shri Gadgil: I think it should end within a fortnight, for the latest position is that there is some sort of agreement and the matter has been referred for further instructions by the firm concerned to their principals in Sweden.

Dr. Tek Chand: Sir, may we know the name of the arbitrator?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice, but I may inform the hon. Member that one of them is a Superintending Engineer from the Ministry.

Private Jute Transactions

***2108. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, by the end of the last year, Government issued a circular to jute business organisations in Calcutta, that in view of the decision of Government to adopt State trading for *hessian* goods, no private jute transactions extending beyond the 31st December 1950 should be entered into; and

(b) if so, whether that circular was later on rescinded or otherwise countermanded?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There was no circular issued by the Government of India. What actually happened was that a letter was sent to the Chairman of the I.J.M.A. on the 8th November 1950 asking him to warn the mills that in the event of Government finally deciding to introduce with effect from the 1st January 1951 the scheme of State Trading for jute goods which was then under consideration, it would not be possible for Government to give any exemption in respect of contracts for later delivery, regardless of the date on which they were entered into. This was brought to the notice of all member mills through a circular issued by the I.J.M.A. on the 11th November 1950.

(b) This does not arise in view of the fact that in a Press Note of the 20th November 1950, Government of India announced their decision to drop the idea of introducing State Trading for jute goods for the time being.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any representation or complaint from the I.J.M.A. against that letter of the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know why Government have changed their idea?

Shri Karmarkar: The idea of State-trading? There was no actual idea. The matter was under consideration. But for certain reasons it was abandoned for the time being, as I said. The whole matter is under our consideration now.

Shri A. C. Guha: Am I to take it that even now it is under consideration?

Shri Karmarkar: The whole question of State-trading is under consideration. The Report of the State Trading Committee is being examined and Government will come to a final conclusion after the whole consideration is over.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

Indian Troops to Nepal for capture of Dr. K. I. Singh

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the full details of the circumstances and the reasons which led the Government of India to send its troops under G.O.C., U.P. Area, to enter the Nepal territory to capture Dr. K. I. Singh and his associates?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Government of India received information, both from the Nepal Government and the U.P. Government, that a gang of over 200 persons under Dr. K. I. Singh had committed a large number of dacoities and some murders on the Nepal-Gorakhpur border. A number of individuals, who are Indian nationals living near the border, also complained directly to the Government about the murder of their relatives by this gang and the looting of their property. Government received not only general and vague charges, but also specific information about several murders committed in cold-blood and numerous dacoities. Cases of rape on young women were also reported. These murders were apart from people killed in actual fighting. This gang was reported to be well armed with rifles and automatic weapons.

The activities of this gang naturally created great consternation on both sides of the border, and both the Nepal Government and the U.P. Government were anxious that effective steps should be taken to put an end to these lawless activities. It was proposed that joint action should be taken in this matter by the forces of the Nepal Government and the Government of India. Both Governments agreeing to this action, orders were issued accordingly by both of them, and importance was attached to the speed of the operation as it was feared that if the gang entered the mountainous regions, it would be difficult to take effective action. This joint action was thereupon taken and Dr. K. I. Singh's gang was surrounded. They offered opposition and some fighting took place as a result of which seven of the gang were killed and one was wounded. There were some light casualties on the side of the Indian forces. On the 20th February, Dr. K. I. Singh and 357 persons belonging to his gang were captured. Large quantities of arms and ammunition and looted property were also captured. Among the people who were captured along with Dr. K. I. Singh were several well-known dacoits wanted by the U.P. authorities for serious crimes.

It is the policy of the Government of India not to interfere with the internal affairs of Nepal. When, however, criminal activities take place on considerable scale on the border, the two Governments have agreed, in the past, to take joint action. Indian forces have strict orders not to enter Nepal territory except in such cases of joint action by agreement. It was at the request of and with the permission of the Nepal authorities that a certain number of police and soldiery entered Nepal territory from India for the purpose of this joint action. This was entirely confined to the suppression of a criminal gang and had no political significance.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is this Doctor a Member of the Medical profession or what?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am glad the hon. Member has asked that question. He is a doctor of his own making.

Shri Hussain Imam *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: No questions are permissible on statements.

(b) the total annual cost of publications of all these journals;

(c) what per cent. of the cost is recovered by the sale of these journals; and

(d) which is the Ministry which has (i) the largest number of journals and (ii) the smallest number?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) 57.

(b) Rs. 26,02,450/4/-.

(c) 67 per cent. approximately.

(d) (i) Ministry of Commerce and Industry, (ii) Some Ministries do not issue any journals and several others issue only one journal each.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the exact purpose of Government in publishing and distributing these journals and how far that purpose has been served?

Shri Buragohain: The purpose is mainly to give information and knowledge about the working of the different branches of Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the economy drive of the Government has affected these publications in any way?

Shri Buragohain: Not so far, Sir.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the number of journals published by a Ministry varies directly or inversely with the efficiency of the Ministry?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: As it was stated that the purpose of publishing these journals was to give a knowledge of the departments of Government, may I know whether these publications are sent to the Members of Parliament at least?

Shri Buragohain: The distribution of these publications is done according to rules. Some are sent to Members of Parliament free, others are priced publications, and some are placed in the Parliament Library.

Swedish Pre-fab Huts

***2107. Shri Ghule:** Will the Minister **of Works, Production and Supply,** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any civil suit has been started against the Swedish firm which supplied the pre-fab huts, which were not according to the order; and

(b) if so, when and what is the amount for which the suit has been filed?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No, but in accordance with the conditions of the contract, the matter has been referred to arbitration.

(b) The claim was filed before the arbitrators on 28th December 1950. Meanwhile representations of the Supplies have approached the Government for a settlement out of Court, and arbitration proceedings have been postponed.

Shri Ghule: May I know the reason why the idea of launching a suit against the firm has been abandoned?

Shri Gadgil: Precisely because there is a clause in the contract which requires recourse to arbitration before the matter is taken to a civil court.

Shri Ghule: May I know the probable date by which the matter would end?

Shri Gadgil: I think it should end within a fortnight, for the latest position is that there is some sort of agreement and the matter has been referred for further instructions by the firm concerned to their principals in Sweden.

Dr. Tek Chand: Sir, may we know the name of the arbitrator?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice, but I may inform the hon. Member that one of them is a Superintending Engineer from the Ministry.

Private Jute Transactions

***2108. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, by the end of the last year, Government issued a circular to jute business organisations in Calcutta, that in view of the decision of Government to adopt State trading for *hessian* goods, no private jute transactions extending beyond the 31st December 1950 should be entered into; and

(b) if so, whether that circular was later on rescinded or otherwise countermanded?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There was no circular issued by the Government of India. What actually happened was that a letter was sent to the Chairman of the I.J.M.A. on the 8th November 1950 asking him to warn the mills that in the event of Government finally deciding to introduce with effect from the 1st January 1951 the scheme of State Trading for jute goods which was then under consideration, it would not be possible for Government to give any exemption in respect of contracts for later delivery, regardless of the date on which they were entered into. This was brought to the notice of all member mills through a circular issued by the I.J.M.A. on the 11th November 1950.

(b) This does not arise in view of the fact that in a Press Note of the 20th November 1950, Government of India announced their decision to drop the idea of introducing State Trading for jute goods for the time being.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any representation or complaint from the I.J.M.A. against that letter of the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know why Government have changed their idea?

Shri Karmarkar: The idea of State-trading? There was no actual idea. The matter was under consideration. But for certain reasons it was abandoned for the time being, as I said. The whole matter is under our consideration now.

Shri A. C. Guha: Am I to take it that even now it is under consideration?

Shri Karmarkar: The whole question of State-trading is under consideration. The Report of the State Trading Committee is being examined and Government will come to a final conclusion after the whole consideration is over.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

Indian Troops to Nepal for Capture of Dr. K. I. Singh

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the full details of the circumstances and the reasons which led the Government of India to send its troops under G.O.C., U.P. Area, to enter the Nepal territory to capture Dr. K. I. Singh and his associates?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Government of India received information, both from the Nepal Government and the U.P. Government, that a gang of over 200 persons under Dr. K. I. Singh had committed a large number of dacoities and some murders on the Nepal-Gorakhpur border. A number of individuals, who are Indian nationals living near the border, also complained directly to the Government about the murder of their relatives by this gang and the looting of their property. Government received not only general and vague charges, but also specific information about several murders committed in cold-blood and numerous dacoities. Cases of rape on young women were also reported. These murders were apart from people killed in actual fighting. This gang was reported to be well armed with rifles and automatic weapons.

The activities of this gang naturally created great consternation on both sides of the border, and both the Nepal Government and the U.P. Government were anxious that effective steps should be taken to put an end to these lawless activities. It was proposed that joint action should be taken in this matter by the forces of the Nepal Government and the Government of India. Both Governments agreeing to this action, orders were issued accordingly by both of them, and importance was attached to the speed of the operation as it was feared that if the gang entered the mountainous regions, it would be difficult to take effective action. This joint action was thereupon taken and Dr. K. I. Singh's gang was surrounded. They offered opposition and some fighting took place as a result of which seven of the gang were killed and one was wounded. There were some light casualties on the side of the Indian forces. On the 20th February, Dr. K. I. Singh and 357 persons belonging to his gang were captured. Large quantities of arms and ammunition and looted property were also captured. Among the people who were captured along with Dr. K. I. Singh were several well-known dacoits wanted by the U.P. authorities for serious crimes.

It is the policy of the Government of India not to interfere with the internal affairs of Nepal. When, however, criminal activities take place on considerable scale on the border, the two Governments have agreed, in the past, to take joint action. Indian forces have strict orders not to enter Nepal territory except in such cases of joint action by agreement. It was at the request of and with the permission of the Nepal authorities that a certain number of police and soldiery entered Nepal territory from India for the purpose of this joint action. This was entirely confined to the suppression of a criminal gang and had no political significance.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is this Doctor a Member of the Medical profession or what?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am glad the hon. Member has asked that question. He is a doctor of his own making.

Shri Hussain Imam *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: No questions are permissible on statements.

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE CONFERENCE IN LONDON

Shri Kamath: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of Commonwealth countries will shortly be held in London in order to formulate a Commonwealth Defence Plan;

(b) if so, whether India has been invited to the conference;

(c) whether India has accepted the invitation; and

(d) who will represent India at the Conference?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) We have no such information. The press reports on this subject are misleading.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that at the last Conference held in London early in January, I believe, there was a suggestion that the Commonwealth Prime Ministers or their representatives might hold informal talks outside the Conference with the United Kingdom War Minister or Defence Minister, with a view to evolving a joint Defence Plan? Was there any truth in the press report which appeared at that time to this effect?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In the course of Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conferences, there were frequent informal meetings. I believe, there was some such meeting, not about Defence generally, but about some particular areas. I cannot give the hon. Member any further information about it, because I was not in it.

Shri Kamath: Has India not made it clear to the British Government that so long as British Colonialism is not liquidated, India cannot be a party to a Joint Commonwealth Defence Plan?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not think it need be replied to.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in the press reports that the U.K. Government is trying to dovetail the Commonwealth Defence Plan into the Atlantic Powers Plan and the West Europe Army Plan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I know nothing about it.

Shri Kamath *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He says he knows nothing about it.

Shri Kamath: Has our Government made it clear to the U.K. Government that no commitment of this nature such as the Commonwealth Defence Plan can be entered into by India which might jeopardize her freedom of action in the event of war?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think they are all suggestions and hypothetical questions. We will now proceed with the next business.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COAL SUPPLIED TO PAKISTAN

*2109. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coal supplied to Pakistan in the year 1950 month by month; and

(b) the basis on which the price of this quantity of coal was fixed?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The quantity of coal supplied during 1950 was—

January—640 tons.
February—511 tons.
March—149 tons.
April—178 tons.
May—122 tons.
June—211 tons.
July—422 tons.
August—518 tons.
September—4,018 tons.
October—6,592 tons.
November—2,215 tons.
December—1,374 tons.

(b) In fixing the price a sum of Rs. 12 was added to the controlled price in view of the disparity in the currencies of the two countries.

Hessian

*2110. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the present landing cost of 100 yards of *hessian* in the U.S.A.?

(b) What is the market price of 100 yards of *hessian* in the U.S.A.?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 22·75 dollars for 40"×10 oz. construction.

(b) The latest available spot market quotation in New York for the same construction is 34·50 dollars per 100 yards (nominal).

TEA

*2111. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity of tea transported from Assam and North Bengal to Calcutta *via* Assam Link Railway during the last rainy season?

(b) What was the quantity that was declared "waste" out of the aforesaid quantity by the health authorities of the Calcutta Corporation?

(c) What are the reasons for tea being wasted during transit?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 278,96,600 lbs. of tea was brought down to Calcutta from Assam and North Bengal by the Assam Rail Link during the last Rainy Season.

(b) Accurate data relating to the quantity of tea declared waste during the last rainy season are not available.

(c) (i) Dampness through leaky wagons or uncovered transhipment points, especially during the Monsoon.

(ii) Damage to chests in transit due to rough handling.

COTTON

*2112. **Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the number of bales of cotton consumed by the mills in India during the years 1948-49, 1949-50, and 1950-51 up to date?

(b) What is the requirement of cotton for our Mills during 1951-52?

(c) How do Government propose to meet the requirements of cotton for our mills during 1951-52?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 1948-49—4,254,636 bales; 1949-50—3,684,885 bales; 1950-51 (September and October 1951)—484,837 bales.

(b) 42 lakh bales.

(c) By imports of cotton from East Africa, Sudan, Egypt and United States of America over and above the cotton available from the indigenous production.

LOAN TO TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

*2113. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations for Central Government's loan to the Tata Iron and Steel Company have been completed;

(b) if so, the amount and purpose of the loan;

(c) whether similar loan has been granted to any other Steel Company and

(d) if so, the amount of the loan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) Rs. 5 crores in all to the Steel Corporation of Bengal Ltd., and the Indian Iron and Steel Co., Ltd.

RUBBER

*2114. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state when and with what objects was the Rubber Board formed?

(b) What is the quantity of rubber produced in India per year and what is the requirement of India and how is the deficit, if any, met?

(c) What is the total acreage brought under fresh rubber plantation in each of the years 1949 and 1950?

(d) Is there any scheme for rehabilitation of the Industry and what progress has so far been made?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The India Rubber Board was formed in 1947 for the development of the rubber industry in regard to production and marketing of rubber, encourage research on rubber, supply technical advice to rubber growers, improve marketing and collection of statistics, and advise Government on all matters relating to development of rubber Including imports and exports of rubber.

(b) Indigenous production estimated at 15,000 tons per annum and; requirments at about 20,000 tons. Deficit met by imports.

(c) 1949—793 acres,
1950—116 acres.

(d) Government had set up Development Committee to go into the question. The Committee has recently submitted its report which is under examination.

INTERNATIONAL COAL COMMITTEE

*2115. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the recommendations of the International Coal Committee held in the year 1949 at Pittsburg (U.S.A.) under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation?

(b) How many of them have been adopted and implemented by Government of India?

(c) Do Government propose to implement the other recommendations and

so, how long will it take to implement them?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). A statement containing—

(i) the resolutions adopted at the Third Session of the Coal Mines Committee of the International Labour Organisation held at Pittsburg in April 1949; and

(ii) a brief account of the position regarding the implementation, of each resolution is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 4.]

CONCESSIONS TO COLLIERY LABOUR

***2116. Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government granted an increase of Rs. 3-8-0 per ton in the price of coal to colliery owners to provide concessions to colliery labour in wages, rations, bonus, Provident Fund etc.?

(b) If not, what is the exact amount of such increase in different coal-fields per ton and how was it calculated and for which concessions?

(c) Have Government, since the grant of the increase, examined the concessions and satisfied themselves that the concessions were fully implemented and the amount of increase in coal price was fully spent by the colliery owners?

(d) If not, do Government propose to examine them in view of the increase in the price index?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No; Sir.

(b) The increase allowed in the price of coal in different coalfields was an overall increase taking into account the production cost and the concessions granted to colliery labour under the Conciliation Board Award. The amount of increase allowed in the coal prices per ton was—

Bengal/Bihar	Rs. 3/8/-
Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 2/13/- to Rs. 3/7/-
Assam	Rs. 1/- to Rs. 3/8/-
Rewa	Rs. 3/8/-
Talcher	Rs. 1/6 -
Korea	Rs. 1/2/-

(c) No such examination has been made but Government are satisfied that the recommendations of the Conciliation Board and the Fact Finding Committee have been generally implemented by the Colliery Owners.

(d) No, Sir.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES

***2117. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the number of persons who got compensation during the year 1950 under the Workmen's Compensation Act?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Figures for 1950 are not yet available. The attention of the hon. Member is however invited in this connection to Statement II laid on the Table of the House in reply to question No. 1452 on the 14th February, 1951 which gives information for 1949.

SETTLEMENT OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

***2118. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the effect of settlement of evacuee property at Government level with the Government of Pakistan indicating the value of money made over to the Pakistan authorities and the amount received from Pakistan authorities?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The Government of India made a proposal to the Government of Pakistan that immovable property left by evacuees in either country in areas in which the evacuee property law is in force, should be acquired by the respective Governments, the Government acquiring the property of the greater value paying the difference in cash to the other Government. No such settlement has, however, been arrived at and therefore the question of one Government paying any amount to the other has not arisen so far.

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

***2119. Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved of a scheme for construction of houses in pursuance of which a private company has been floated with an authorised capital of Rs. 50 lakhs;

(b) if so, what is Government's interest in this concern;

(c) for whom these houses will be built and what are the terms and conditions; and

(d) how much money will be raised for building houses in the country by this Company?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Government proposes to invest 1 per cent. of the capital.

(c) The houses will be built for displaced persons in Delhi State, and sold to them outright or on hire-purchase. The precise terms will be settled by the proposed company in due course.

(d) No estimate is possible at this stage.

SALT

***2120. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state when and why Salt was transferred to the Ministry of Industry and Supply from that of Finance?

(b) What are the sources of Salt supply in India and what is the quantity produced at each source?

(c) Is it in the contemplation of Government to have free manufacture of Salt in the country?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) After the Salt Duty was abolished, the subject of Salt was transferred from the Ministry of Finance to the late Ministry of Industry and Supply on 1st November, 1947, in view of the desirability of placing the industry under a Ministry responsible for development of industries.

(b) A statement showing the sources and their production in 1950 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 5.]

(c) The manufacture of Salt in areas not exceeding ten acres is already free. The question of simplifying the licensing rules in respect of areas exceeding 10 acres is engaging the attention of Government.

खान श्रमिकों के लिए सुविधायें

***२१२१. श्री जांगड़े :** उप मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) ऐसे खान मालिकों की संख्या क्या है जिन्होंने श्रमिकों तथा उनके बालकों के मनोरंजन हेतु विनोद स्थल, बगीचे, खेलकूद के स्थान, विद्यालय तथा प्रौढ़ शिक्षा केन्द्रों की व्यवस्था की है, तथा

(बी) इन सुविधाओं को प्रदान करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है

FACILITIES FOR MINE LABOUR

[***2121. Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mine-owners who have made provision for recreation grounds, gardens, play grounds, schools and adult education centres for the benefit of labourers and their children; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for providing such facilities.]

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 6.]

(b) Government have established the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund and the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund for promoting the welfare of labour employed in the two mining industries. Part 'B' of the statement laid on the Table gives in detail the steps so far taken by Government in that direction.

REMOVAL OF OVER-BURDEN IN COLLIERIES

***2122. Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies employed for and the terms of removal of over-burden in Government Railway Collieries;

(b) the cost of removal of over-burden per ton of coal in individual Collieries during the last five years; and

(c) the cost of removal of over-burden per ton by machine cut and by hand cut?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 7.]

HARIJANS IN WEST PAKISTAN

***2123. Shri Balmiki:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Harijans in West Pakistan are not allowed to visit their ancestral homes in India under the Ordinance of Essential Services of Pakistan;

(b) whether the Government of India have exchanged correspondence with Pakistan on this question; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). There has been no recent correspondence. The matter

vas first taken up by the Prime Minis-er with the Prime Minister of Pakis-an in October 1948. In reply the Pakistan Government stated that weepers were not desirous of coming o India on account of the very high vages prevailing in Pakistan. At the ame time, they expressed their in-bility to remove the ban. The ban n the movement of *Dhobis* was, how-ver, removed. On a further re-resentation against the ban on sweep-rs the Government of Pakistan did ot agree to remove it but intimated iat they would look into complaints ı genuine cases where facilities had een refused.

VISIT OF MR. ROBERT BURLEY

*2124. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will **e Prime Minister** be pleased to state hether it is a fact that Mr. Robert ırley, Regional Director of the U.S. ır East Command visited Delhi?

(b) If so, what was the object of s visit?

The Deputy Minister of External fairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). ı American National, Mr. R. A. ırley came to Madras from Colombo d later to Delhi. Government have information about his official signation or the purpose of his it. Presumably he was on a private it on his way to some other ıntry.

ARRESTS IN NEPAL

'2125. **Shri A. B. Gurung:** Will the **ime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian citizens ested on charges of murder, arson l loot in Nepal territory since the break of recent trouble there; and

b) the measures Government adopt-to stop such occurrences?

he Deputy Minister of External airs (Dr. Keskar): (a) A number of sons have been arrested recently in ɔal as members of gangs which e indulging in criminal activities. st of these were Nepalese citizens, a few are probably Indian nation-The exact number is not known.

b) Joint action was taken by the ernment of India and the Govern-ıt of Nepal to check and put an to these criminal activities.

-OFFICIAL AID FOR REHABILITATION

2126. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be sed to state the amount of non-ial aid, if any, in cash or kind ch Government have received in course of rehabilitating displaced ons registered by Government?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): A large number of individuals and societies rendered help in preliminary stages by feeding and finding temporary shelter for displaced persons, as a measure of relief. Non-official agencies have helped in organising Co-operative Societies. Education, Training and Vocational Centres and the like. Some non-official institutions have admitted unattached women and children and undertaken their supervision, finance being supplied by Government. Private-owned mills and factories have supplied employment. Some foreign institutions like American Friends Service Unit and Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe have supplied powdered milk and food packages, while others like Watumal Foundation, National Catholic Welfare Conference, and UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) have promised large quantities of powdered milk and rice, for distribution among displaced persons.

JUTE EXPORT PRICE AND FOOD GRAINS IMPORT PRICE

*2127. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly indices of the average export prices of our jute manufactures since devaluation to date, with the quarter preceding devaluation as the base; and

(b) the monthly indices of the average import prices of foodgrains since devaluation to date, with the quarter preceding devaluation as the base?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 8.]

CHANDERNAGORE

*2128. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indo-French treaty was signed on the 2nd February, 1951 for the cession of Chandernagore;

(b) whether this treaty includes the transfer of all State property lying within Chandernagore to the Government of India; and

(c) whether any provision has been made to settle differences in respect of assets and liabilities arising out of the transfer?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Government of India's press note dated the 2nd February 1951 on this subject, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 9]

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL (REHABILITATION)

*2129. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many displaced persons from East Bengal have so far returned to Assam since Delhi agreement and how many of them have so far been resettled in their old houses and lands?

(b) What is the total amount of grants given by the Centre for the (i) rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons in Assam; and (ii) re-settlement of Muslim displaced persons returning to Assam, since the Delhi Agreement?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) About 41,788 families of displaced Muslims returned from East Bengal to Assam up to the 31st January, 1951. Of them about 27,772 families have been resettled in their old houses and lands.

(b) A sum of rupees one crore and nine lakhs has been sanctioned so far for the relief and rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons as well as of returning Muslim migrants in the State of Assam. No allocation of this grant separately for Hindu displaced persons and returning Muslim migrants has been made.

PORTUGUESE "OVERSEAS PROVINCES"

*2130. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a report that the Portuguese Government is going to enact law making the Overseas colonies as "The Overseas provinces", which include territories from India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes. Our attention has been drawn to the proposed legislation in Portugal The main features of the proposed amendments to the existing Colonial Act are changes in the various names and designations. The Portuguese "Colonial Empire" is to be called "Overseas Empire". The word "Colony" will be replaced by "Overseas Province". It is also proposed to give a measure of local autonomy to colonial territories but "a large measure of control and supervision will continue to remain with the Portuguese Government. These proposed changes, though no doubt intended to produce an impression of change, in effect make no difference.

The House will be interested to know what the Portuguese Government consider the justification for their presence in Goa. Article 2 of the Colonial Act reads as follows:—

> "It is part of the essential objects of the Portuguese nation to fulfil its historical mission of possessing and colonising Overseas dominions and of civilising the native population inhabiting them, as well as to influence them by its culture, a function ascribed to it by the Eastern Padroado."

It is proposed to change this Article 2 now as follows:—

> "It is of the organic essence of the Portuguese nation to fulfil the historical function of colonising the discovered lands under its sovereignty and to import to and to propagate among the populations of those lands the benefits of civilisation, simultaneously with the exercise of the moral influence deriving from the patronage of the East."

I think it may be said that the people of Goa have had sufficient experience now of the benefits of civilisation and the moral influence of the patronage of Portugal of the East. It is not surprising that they wish a change now. In any event, it is of the organic essence of the Indian nation and of the historic process that brought independence to India, to free those parts of India which are still under colonial rule. Verbal changes and enactments make no difference to these essential facts and the Government of India will adhere to the policy which has been so frequently reiterated.

INDIAN NATIONALS ARRESTED IN NEPAL

*2131. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether all the Indian nationals arrested in Nepal in the course of the rebellion have been set at liberty and their properties restored?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): All the Indians who were arrested during the disturbances in Nepal have been released. The property of none of them was confiscated.

TRADE TALKS WITH JAPAN

*2132. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the programme for the talks with the Japanese Trade Mission has been completed?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The Japanese Mission which arrived in New Delhi on the 18th February 1951 has already left this place on the 21st February. During their three days stay here, the members of the Mission called on the various officers of the Ministries of the Government of India and also had with them brief informal talks regarding the Indo-Japan trade.

LOAN APPLICATION FROM BIHAR

*2133. **Shri Kameshwara Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether any application for a loan has been received from the State of Bihar for the rehabilitation of displaced persons?

(b) If so, when, and how has it been dealt with?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) August, 1950. The amount of loan has been sanctioned.

COFFEE CESS

*2134. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) when the present rate of levy of coffee cess was first decided upon;

(b) whether representations have been made to the Government of India that the rate of levy of the cess should be increased by eight annas per cwt. of coffee;

(c) the estimated annual income which will accrue if the cess is increased by eight annas;

(d) whether it is a fact that dearness allowance has not been paid to the employees of the Indian Coffee Board for the last twenty-five months; and

(e) the annual expenditure estimated to cover payment of dearness allowance to the employees of the Indian Coffee Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 1940.

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) Rupees two lakhs,

(d) Yes, Sir. The employees of the Board drawing salaries up to Rs. 250 p.m. only have not been paid the increase in dearness allowance of Rs. 10/- p. m., sanctioned with effect from 1st January 1949 by the Government of India.

(e) The annual expenditure to meet the increase in dearness allowance mentioned in (c) above is estimated to be Rs. 1,44,000.

बीरगंज कोषागार

*२१३५. **श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) क्या यह सत्य हैकि नैपाल कांग्रेस की सेना जिस धन को नैपाल कोषागार से लूट कर भारत में लाई थी, उसे पुलिस ने तलाशी लेने के पश्चात् अपने अधिकार में ले लिया था, तथा

(ब) यदि यह सत्य है तो उस लूटे हुए धन में नकद रुपए, सोना तथा चांदी कितनी थी तथा भारत सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

BIRGANJ TREASURY

[*2135. **Shri B. S. Arya:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that the treasure, which was looted by the Nepal Congress Forces from the Birganj Treasury and which they had brought into India, was detected by the Police and confiscated; and

(b) if so, what was the amount of cash, gold and silver in that looted treasure and what steps have been taken by the Government of India with regard to that?]

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, the treasure was seized in Bihar and Delhi.

(b) Details of the amount confiscated in Delhi are as follows:

	Rs.	As.	P.
i) Indian Currency	35,00,552	10	9
ii) Nepal Currency	12,690	23	1

Precise information about the value of the treasure confiscated in Bihar is not yet available.

The treasure will be kept in safe custody pending its return to the Government of Nepal.

INDIANS IN CHINA AND SINKIANG

*2136. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether figures are available about the number of Indians residing in China and Sinkiang at present, and if so, what are their numbers; and

(b) whether there has been any influx of refugees from the above-mentioned countries into India after their occupation by Communists in 1949 and if so, the number of such refugees?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The latest figures are not known. About two years ago, the number of Indians residing in China was reported to be 830. The number of Indian nationals at present residing in the Province of Sinkiang is less than 25. There are also 100 to 150 Kashmiris residing in Sinkiang.

Our Ambassador in Peking has been asked to supply the latest figures.

(b) There were no Indian refugees from China, but about 50 Indian nationals, who had become destitute, were repatriated to India at Government expense.

About 650 Chinese refugees, most of them Turkey Muslims, arrived in India from the Province of Sinkiang in 1949. They came to Kashmir. Most of them returned later to Sinkiang or went on to some foreign country.

STATISTICS OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

*2137. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any all-India statistics of unemployed persons among the educated middle class are collected and maintained; and

(b) if so, what was their number during the year 1950?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). No such statistics are maintained.

CLOTH QUOTA TO BHOPAL

*2138. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of (i) fine and (ii) coarse cloth given to the state of Bhopal during the year 1949-50;

(b) the quota for the year 1951; and

(c) the reason for the difference?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A total allotment of 10,267 bales of cloth was made to the Bhopal State during 1949 and 1950. No information is available regarding the quantities of fine and coarse cloth purchased by the State during the period January 1949 to September 1949 against the above allotment. During the period October 1949 to December 1950, however, 315 bales of fine and 50 bales of coarse cloth were released to the State from Madhya Bharat and the Bombay/Ahmedabad selected mills.

(b) and (c). The monthly gross cloth quota of Bhopal State was fixed in December 1948, at 600 bales. This was based on the population computed according to the 1941 census, due weightage for increase in population having been given to the extent of 20 per cent. in cities and 10 per cent in urban and rural areas. The quota is inclusive of the handloom cloth production in the State which was estimated at 100 bales per month but was reduced to 50 bales per month from October 1949. The mill cloth quota of the State during January/September 1949 was, therefore, 500 bales per month and from October 1949 onwards 550 bales per month. From September 1949, the Government of India assumed responsibility for the distribution of only two-third of the mill production for civil consumption, the balance of one-third being allowed to be sold through normal trade channels. The cloth quotas for purposes of allotment through controlled channels were, therefore, reduced and Bhopal's quota was reduced from 550 bales to 367 bales per month. The present quota of 367 bales per month is likely to be continued in 1951.

MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES IN BHOPAL

*2139. **Thakur Lal Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the maximum capacity for the manufacture of matches in the match factory at Bhopal?

(b) Are Government aware that its material is not as good as foreign matches?

(c) If so, do Government propose to improve it, so that the local product may come up to the standard of foreign matches?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) About 2,880 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each per annum.

(b) Government have had no complaint in regard to the quality of the matches manufactured by this factory.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) of the question.

REPORTS OF DISTURBANCE ENQUIRY COMMITTEES

*2140. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Disturbance Enquiry Committees of West Bengal, Assam, and East Bengal formed under the terms of the Delhi Agreement have submitted

their Reports to their respective Governments?

(b) If so, do Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy each of such Reports and also state the steps taken by each Government for implementing the recommendations?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The reports of the Enquiry Commissions of West Bengal, Assam and East Bengal were exchanged between the Governments of India and Pakistan on the 7th March, 1951 and will be published on a date to be agreed between the two Governments when copies of the West Bengal and Assam reports will also be laid on the Table of the House.

The recommendations of the West Bengal and Assam Enquiry Commissions are at present under examination.

EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON REHABILITATION

***2141. Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total amounts spent by the Government of India and the Governments of West Bengal and Assam, on the rehabilitation of the East Bengal displaced persons and returning Muslims, up till 31st January 1951?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): According to the latest information available to the Government of India, a total sum of Rs. 1469·89 lakhs has been spent on the rehabilitation of the East Bengal displaced persons in West Bengal and Assam from the date of partition up to the end of 1950. In addition about Rs. 6 lakhs have been spent in West Bengal up to the end of November 1950 and Rs. 25·1 lakhs in Assam up to the end of January 1951 on the relief and rehabilitation of returning Muslim displaced persons.

PRODUCTION IN TEXTILE MILLS

***2142. Shri Hussain Imam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the expected production of cotton textile mills for the year 1951 and what is the export quota fixed for the first six months?

(b) What was the highest quantity produced, in what year and what were the reasons for the reduction in the year 1950?

(c) Is there any system of checking actual production by checking it with the consumption of cotton?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Expected Production 4,000/4,200 million yards. Export quota for the first six month 120 million yds.

(b) Highest production (1948)—4,31 million yds.

Reasons for low production in th year 1950:—

(i) shortage of cotton,

(ii) strikes and absentism. part cularly strike in the cotto textile mills in Greater Bom bay,

(iii) closure of mills due to ur economic conditions.

(c) Yes, the mills are to subm periodic returns for the cotton allot'e and the quantity used in product under section 3 of the Essentia Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act 1946 (XXIV of 1946).

RAW JUTE EXPORT

***2143. Shri Hussain Imam:** Will th Minister of **Commerce and Industry** b pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistar raw jute is being exported from Calcutta Port;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the total number of bales and their approximate value in sterling or dollars for each of the eight quarters of the years 1949 and 1950;

(c) whether the foreign exchange accrues to India or Pakistan and who realises the jute export duty; and

(d) what is the method of valuation of raw jute and how are they shown in our monthly statistics of trade (foreign)?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmakar): (a) Yes, Sir, the hon. Member is presumably referring to Pakistan raw jute in transit through Calcutta Port.

(b) A statement giving the quantities (in bales) of Pakistan raw jute exported to foreign countries in transit through Calcutta during these periods is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 10].

Information about values is not available.

(c) As this is transit traffic, the foreign exchange accrues to Pakistan, and no export duty thereon is also leviable in India.

(d) Since it is Pakistan raw jute in transit, the question of our valuation thereof does not arise, and it is also not exhibited separately in our statistics.

DR. BHARATAN KUMARAPPA

***2146. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Dr. Bharatan Kumarappa, India's delegate to the United Nations Social Commission, was stopped from speaking in the University of Houston, Texas, U.S.A.,

(b) If so, what were the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). According to newspaper reports this is true. Dr. Bharatan Kumarappa has, however, stated that some speeches, of his were distorted and misquoted by some local paper in Houston.

I should like to add that Dr. Kumarappa is on a private visit to the United States for the purpose of a lecture tour. This has nothing to do with the Government of India or with the United Nations Social Commission. The next meeting of this Commission will be held in Geneva some time this month. Dr. Kumarappa is authorised to speak for the Government of India only in the Social Commission and that too on subjects coming before that Commission and according to Government's instructions. Any views expressed by him on topics outside the Commission, or on topics other than those before it, are his own and the Government of India have no responsibility for them.

Hessian CLOTH

***2147. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the approximate cost per hundred square feet of Hessian Cloth on its landing in each of the various Dollar areas and how it compares with the market price in the Dollar countries concerned in each case?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The landed cost of 100 yards (not 100 souare feet) of 40" x 10 oz *hessian* in U.S.A. is 22.75 dollars. The latest available spot market quotation in New York for the same construction is 34.50 (nominal). Information about prices in other dollar countries *hessian*, however, is exported to U.S.A.

BORDER RAIDS

129. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempt has been made by the Minority Ministers of India and Pakistan to find out the causes of repeated border raids by armed Pakistani gangs into the border areas of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are those causes, and what steps have the said Ministers taken to neutralise them?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The Minority Ministers have been appointed mainly to ensure the implementation of the Prime Ministers' agreement of April 1950 and thereby to help restore confidence in the minds of the minorities. The Ministers have no direct responsibility for looking into border raids. These are dealt with in accordance with the procedure agreed upon by India and Pakistan in December 1948. An enquiry is held jointly first by the District Magistrate concerned on both sides and if they disagree by the Divisional Commissioners. Later, if necessary, they are discussed by the Chief Secretaries of East Bengal and West Bengal at their periodical conferences. Apart from other factors, one of the principal reasons for border raids is the lack of a proper line of demarcation along the greater part of the boundary between West Bengal and East Bengal. It is hoped that where as a result of the operations now in progress the boundary is finally demarcated, the frequency of such raids would decrease and it would be possible to deal with them more effectively.

CEMENT IMPORT

130. Dr. M. M. Das: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantities of cement imported from Pakistan into India during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 up to date?

(b) Is it a fact that the Pakistan manufactured cement has the same controlled price as cement imported from Europe which is 50 to 80 per cent. higher than India manufactured cement?

(c) What is the import duty imposed by Government upon foreign cement?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) 1949-50—38,960 tons; 1950-51 (up to January 1951 —263 tons).

(b) The price of cement imported into India from Europe and Pakistan varies in accordance with the landed cost. The maximum price chargeable at Ports is landed cost *plus* 10 per cent. or Rs. 135 per ton, whichever is less, and for inland destinations the actual freight is added to the Port price. The selling price of cement imported from

Pakistan is usually 50 to 60 per cent. higher than that of Indian cement.

(c) Rs. 16/8/0 per ton.

REHABILITATION IN ANDAMAN ISLANDS

131. Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state what is the amount spent by Government, if any, for development work, to make the Andamans fit for rehabilitation of displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):

Jungle clearance	Rs. 60,000
Construction of Transit Camps.	Rs. 1,08,000
TOTAL	Rs. 1,68,000

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 13th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

STEAMER FREIGHT

*2148. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state how the steamer freight is arranged for the purpose of imports and other cargoes to India?

(b) Is the freight rate settled for particular consignment or for particular period?

(c) What is the lowest rate of freight so far obtained?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Steamer freight is arranged by negotiations with ship owners and/or their Agents through brokers.

(b) Freight rate is, as a rule, settled for each consignment.

(c) As freight rate depends upon several factors such as the type of cargo, quantities in which it is available, distances between the port of consignment and destination, degree of competition among shipping lines, price level for fuel etc., it is not possible to give a precise answer.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of part (b) where the hon. Minister stated that the freight rate is settled for each consignment, may I know whether any effort has been made to see that the freight is arranged half yearly or yearly with the object of getting a lower freight?

Shri Santhanam: It is the practice of shipping companies to arrange the freight for each consignment. It is done through the brokers whose business it is to arrange such freight. I do not think we can alter the customs of world shipping.

Shri Sidhva: I am not suggesting a new type of system. Is it not the practice to give freight at a cheaper rate if it is done on a half yearly or yearly basis?

Shri Santhanam: I am informed that it is not the practice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the steamer freight is arranged through local people or through India House in London?

Shri Santhanam: For bulk of the shipping required by the Government of India the shipping is arranged through India House, but the High Commissioner also arranges it through a broker.

Shri Sidhva: Will the hon. Minister make enquiries whether a rebate of about 15 per cent. is given under a half yearly system and, if that is so, will the Government of India take advantage of that system?

Shri Santhanam: I take it that our High Commissioner has all the information with him and does what is best in the interests of the country.

Shri Sidhva: My question was different.

Mr. Speaker: I am calling the next question.

LOSS OR SHORTAGE OF GOODS (CLAIMS)

*2149. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the number of claims preferred by persons against loss or shortage with the E.P. Railway during the year 1950?

(b) What is the total number of claims disposed of and what was the number outstanding at the end of December, 1950?

(c) What is the total value of all the claims?

(d) What is the staff employed in this Department?

(e) How many cases were sent to Courts of Law, in how many cases decrees were obtained and in how many cases compromises were made with the claimants?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The number of claims against E.P. Railway for compensation for loss of or shortage in consignments during the year 1950 was 20818.

(b) The number of claims disposed of during the year was 19314; and the number of outstanding claims on 31st December was 1504.

(c) The total value of all claims received during the year was Rs. 72,41,435.

(d) The number of staff employed in the claims branch including officers and line staff is 153.

(e) Suits were filed in 419 cases. 48 cases were decreed against the E.P. Railway; and in 113 cases a compromise was effected with the claimants out of court.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of the answer to part (d) of the question where the hon. Minister gave the number of staff employed in the claims branch, may I know whether the number is the same as in the pre-partition time or, after the work has been reduced, whether the number of the staff has also been reduced proportionately?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, the entire E.P.R. staff is only a fraction of the staff employed by the old N.W.R.

Shri Sidhva: I am asking specifically about the claims Department existing on the E.P. Railway, whether the staff has been proportionately reduced or whether it is the same as in the pre-partition time.

Shri Santhanam: I am afraid I shall have to ask for notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has there been any investigation to find out what are the causes leading to these losses?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. We are conducting continuous investigations into the matter.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has the existence of any gangs been discovered....

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

LABOUR OFFICERS (TRAINING)

***2150. Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any use has been made by the Railway Board of the specialized Labour training given to the personnel selected by the Railway Board and trained during the past three years as Labour Officers, in the United Kingdom;

(b) whether this training was given on British Railways and if so, on what Railway and in what subjects; and

(c) what is the number of personnel sent for such training and what is the total cost involved?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) During the last three years only one Railway employee was sent in 1948 to the U.K. for specialised labour training as a Labour Officer. Government are having the benefit of the specialised training of this employee in his post of Welfare Inspector on the E.I. Railway.

(b) The training was given on the British Railways, but information is not readily available as to the particular Railway on which he received training. The subjects in which he received training were—

(i) Labour Welfare and Factory Inspection; and

(ii) Industrial Relations and working of Trade Unions.

(c) The number of railway personnel sent for such training so far is five and the total cost (apart from pay and allowances) involved is approximately Rs. 30,000 i.e., Rs. 6,000 per officer for the entire period of training.

Shri Sidhva: What was the number of personnel sent for such training?

Shri Santhanam: I said five. That number is from the beginning and not for the last three years.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to part (a) the hon. Minister stated that one officer has been employed as Welfare Inspector. May I know where he is located and what his name is?

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know his name?

Shri Sidhva: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Why?

Shri Sidhva: I want to know whether the same gentleman who has returned from training in England has been employed.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister says so in his reply.

Shri Sidhva: My information is that he is somewhere else.

Mr. Speaker: It is not proper to bring in the names of individual officers.

Shri Sidhva: But I want to know whether it is the same officer who has been given the training.

Mr. Speaker: He can put the question whether it is the same officer.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is the same officer who has returned from U.K. after getting training that has been appointed as the Welfare Inspector?

Shri Santhanam: I have stated that only one officer was sent during the last three years—in 1948 for training and that particular officer is a Welfare Inspector on the E.I. Railway.

Shri Kamath: Is there in the Railway Board or under the authority of the Railway Board an officer like a Labour Relations Officer or a Liaison Officer between the administration and labour, so as to safeguard the interests of labour on the railways?

Shri Santhanam: There is one Member of the Railway Board who is Member (Staff) and there are Directors and Assistant Directors who all take charge of the interests of labour.

Shri Kamath: Has any one of them had actual practical experience of railway labour problems outside India?

Shri Santhanam: All these officers have had continuous experience in dealing with railway staff in India, but as to whether any of them has had foreign experience I would like to have notice.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the labour officers or labour inspectors on the railways recruited last year have any special training in social welfare or labour welfare or problems of that nature, because it was advertised that persons qualified at the Tata Institute of Social Science would be taken, but I understand that they were not taken?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He need not pursue that argument any further. Mr. Sidhva.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any more officers are likely to be sent for training in the course of this year?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether there is any programme for training more officers in some Institute here with this Labour Officer who has come trained from outside as the head of that Institute?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think we have any kind of programme of that sort.

PURCHASE OF FOOD GRAINS

***2151. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the amount of money spent on buying foodgrains from abroad in the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The amount of money spent on purchases of foodgrains from abroad during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51

Year	Amount in lacs of rupees
1947-48	10,875
1948-49	13,103
1949-50	10,789
1950-51 (Up to December, 1950)	6,838

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that the sum of money spent on foreign imports in the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 had progressively increased, may I know how do Government account for these increases?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There was greater demand for imported foodgrains. Therefore we had to import more.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the extra sum of money spent on buying foreign foodgrains is because of devaluation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It may be partly due to that.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the amount of money which the Government of India propose to spend on buying foodgrains in 1951-52?

Mr. Speaker: I think this is given in the Budget figures.

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have told the House several times that we are importing 3·7 million tons this year.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know if Government are importing foodgrains through its own officials or through private commercial agencies? If through commercial agencies, may I know what is the commission given to them?

Mr. Speaker: This question has been put a number of times.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what additional money had to be spent by the Government, say, in the years, 1948-49 and 1949-50 as a measure of subsidy to equalize the prices when they were sold here in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that. It is a big question of calculation.

Dr. Deshmukh: I am afraid my question is to the same effect, but I think it would be easier for the hon. Minister to reply. I would like to know out of the figures which have been given by the hon. Minister, what is the total loss that the Central Government had to bear?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for that question.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that up to December 1950 the amount was 68 crores and 38 lakhs. May I know what is the likely amount to be spent from January to March? Can he give us any idea?

Shri Thirumala Rao: So far we have got about 11 lakh tons of foodgrains up to the end of March and the hon. Member can calculate the cost.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister that the increased amount was partly because of devaluation, will the hon. Minister say how much of it was due to devaluation and how much was due to purchasing more grains?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got the figures. I want notice.

Shri Kamath: In spite of increasing expenditure incurred on the import of foodgrains, may I know whether the target date for achieving self-sufficiency in food, still stands?

Shri Thirumala Rao: More than once that has been made clear that our target is to be striven for.

RAILWAY PORTERS

*2152. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Eastern Punjab Railway has abolished the system of appointing contractors for railway porters?

(b) If so, has the Eastern Punjab Railway made any substitute arrangement for supervising the railway porters?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) It has been decided to abolish the system of appointing contractors for railway porters as early as the terms of respective existing contracts permit, on all Indian Railways including the Eastern Punjab Railway.

(b) In pursuance of the policy set out in (a) above, direct licensing of porters has already been introduced on the Eastern Punjab Railway at Delhi and Amritsar stations, where adequate arrangements have been made for supervising the work of the porters.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the reason why the system of appointing cooly contractors has been abolished?

Mr. Speaker: It was a matter of complaint in this House.

Lala Achint Ram: Do the Government propose to provide housing accommodation to railway porters, Sir?

Shri Santhanam: After we have provided for the regular staff, we shall consider this matter.

Mr. Speaker: I think, let us better go to the next question.

RAILWAY LINK BETWEEN AJMER AND KOTAH

*2153. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal before the Government of India for opening new Railway line connecting Kotah with Ajmer;

(b) whether any survey was made of the proposed line and if so, when and what was the report of the surveyors; and

(c) what is the estimated investment on this line and whether the scheme is still in hand or it has been given up and if so, the reasons for the same?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, Traffic and Engineering Surveys were carried out in 1946. The reports revealed that the line whether constructed to broad gauge or metre gauge would be financially unremunerative.

(c) A broad gauge line is estimated to cost Rs. 4·37 crores and a metre gauge line Rs. 2·80 crores. The project was considered by the Central Board of Transport in June, 1948 and they decided to drop it, the main reason being that it was not financially justified.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is the Government aware that the goods and passenger traffic on road transport has gone up very much in the last four years?

Shri Santhanam: Possibly. I have not examined that.

TRACTORS

*2154. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tractors owned by (i) the Central Government (ii) State Government and (iii) individuals; and

(b) whether Government have any overall plan for the rationalisation of the use of tractors?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The number of tractors owned by the Central and State Governments respectively is as follows:

(i) Central Government (Ministry of Food and Agriculture)—646 tractors.

(ii) The total number of tractors owned by various State Governments, according to available reports is 1647.

(iii) Accurate figures regarding the number of tractors owned by private individuals are, however, not available.

(b) The following steps have been taken for rationalising the use of tractors:

(i) Licences for import of tractors are issued only to such firms, as have adequate workshop and servicing facilities.

(ii) In order to obviate the chances of tractors lying idle, for lack of replacement parts, importers are compelled to import spares, covering 15 per cent. of the value of such tractors.

(iii) The State Governments have been advised to confine their purchases of tractors to a few specified types, so that difficulties in regard to procurement of spare parts and servicing are minimised. They have also been asked to operate tractors in units of between 5 and 15, so as to ensure arrangements for proper supervision and repairs.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether Government propose to grant subsidies to reduce capital costs to land owners and co-operative societies?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is for State Governments to consider the proposal and there are certain State Governments who are giving loans for this purpose.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any proposal to establish a Central organization for service and repairs of tractors?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Central Government runs a Central Tractor Organization where it has started a school for training mechanics and drivers.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether during the Conference that was held in June last, any appeal was made to dealers to reduce the margin of profits on these tractors?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Of course the Government of India have been trying; I have asked the dealers to reduce their profits.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what was the response of the dealers to this appeal?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Central Government have made proposals to many of the dealers that they should forego a part of their commission to the Central Government and they have agreed to do so.

Shri M. L. Gupta: May I know whether the people who have been trained in the Central Tractor Organization would be available to private individuals who owned tractors?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Of course these trainees are intended to go about first to serve the States and if more are available, they will be given to private individuals.

Shri Bhagat: May I know whether any extension service is provided in the areas which are tractorized by Government?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I do not understand what the hon. Member means by 'extension service'. Extension service is only intended with regard to research stations.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know where the Central Government employ those tractors?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They are employed mostly in Bhopal.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the dealers are prepared to reduce the cost with regard to private purchase?

Shri Thirumala Rao: With regard to private purchase, licences are granted to those who want to import and it is a matter between the dealers and the purchasers.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

CUT IN FOOD RATION

*2155. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantity of wheat allowed in ration in the rural areas of Delhi has been recently reduced by fifty per cent i.e. from five chattaks to 2½ chattaks;

(b) if so, the monthly saving in wheat and money effected thereby;

(c) whether it is a fact that as result of this, the open market price of wheat in most of the villages went up to Rs. 22 per maund and in some villages no wheat was available; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to make wheat available in such villages?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes. with effect from 17-12-1950.

(b) The saving in wheat for a period of 4 weeks was approximately 15,000 maunds the cost of which is about Rs. 1½ lakhs.

(c) Yes.

(d) The cut has been withdrawn with effect from 14-1-1951.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what is the price of wheat now ruling in the rural areas in the open market?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I cannot give; it may be varying. The official price is Rs. 14-6-0. Recently it has been raised.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Perhaps the hon. Minister has not followed my question. The question is not about controlled prices. Open market exists in rural areas for wheat. I want to know the fall in the price in that market since the restoration of the ration cut.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of the question.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in the Press reports that the American Food Aid which, according to the Minister, would have helped to restore the ration cut, may be unduly delayed?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise?

Shri Kamath: The question relates to Ration cut.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Lala Achint Ram: May I know whether Government is in a position to announce the date for the restoration of this cut?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Which cut? Perhaps the hon. Member is confusing the two cuts. There is the normal cut of 25 per cent.; this is a 50 per cent. cut which has been restored recently roundabout Delhi.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know whether the price of wheat in the rural areas in the open market roundabout Delhi is nearly double the procurement price?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No; it is not a fact.

Lala Achint Ram: I want to know about the 25 per cent cut.

Shri Thirumala Rao: It all depends on the stock position; I cannot give any assurance now.

TUBE WELLS

*2156. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how many wells Government propose to sink during the year 1951 and at what cost;

(b) whether the Rotary Rigs and Percussion Rigs belonging to the Central Government have been worked during the last one year;

(c) if so, how many tube wells have been sunk with their help and at what cost; and

(d) how many of them are actually working today?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The Government of India do not propose to sink any tube wells themselves in 1951. So far as the State Governments are concerned, information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

(b) Yes; two percussion and one rotary rigs belonging to the Central Government worked during the period in question.

(c) Twenty one; at an average cost of Rs. 12,000/- per well.

(d) Eight are working. Another eight will start as soon as pumps are fitted. Three are under development and two have been abandoned.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know how many Rotary rigs are in all possessed by the Central Government? The hon. Minister has said that only one is working. I want to know how many are lying idle.

Shri Thirumala Rao: One Rotary and one Percussion rig belonging to the Central Government have been out of order since July and May, 1950 for want of spare parts.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What was the amount spent on these Rotary rigs, how many Rotary rigs were in possession of the Government of India and how many of them have been lying idle?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Central Government has distributed 15 Percussion and one Rotary rigs to the States retaining only two Rotary and three Percussion rigs. I can give the names of the States to which they have been distributed.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Have any tube wells been sunk with the help of these Rotary rigs?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I cannot give any idea as to with what particular Rotary rig the wells were sunk.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Have they ever been worked and put to use?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes; they worked for some time and some of them went out of order.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the number of tube wells.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer to part (a), the hon. Minister said that the Government of India do not propose to sink any tube wells in 1951. What is the reason? Have sufficient tube wells been sunk? Or for some other reason?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The State Governments have undertaken the task themselves and they are put in direct touch with the contractors who are doing this job.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the position of the Centrally administered areas?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In the Centrally Administered areas, roundabout Delhi, there is a Tube Well Division, and I have given the number of wells. Twenty one wells have been sunk.

Mr. Speaker: The question is this. The hon. Minister said that in 1951, they are not going to have any further tube wells. So far as the Centrally Administered Areas are concerned, why have they abandoned the scheme?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is a question of availability of the proper soil and water there.

Mr. Speaker: We go to the next question.

CENTRAL POTATO RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*2157. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditures incurred by Government during each of the years 1949 and 1950 for the Central Potato Research Institute;

(b) whether any report of the activities of the Institute is available; and

(c) the problems of potato cultivation which are at present being dealt with by the Institute?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The expenditure figures are:

	Recurring	Non-recurring
	Rs.	Rs.
1949-50	1,88,133	41,484-
1950-51 (till the end of January.)	2,01,986-11-9	47,292-11-0

(b) The report for 1949-50 has been received and copies thereof will be available as soon it is printed.

(c) The problems dealt with have mainly been those of immediate practical importance such as (i) the production of high-yielding varieties for the various potato-growing regions in India, (ii) the determination of the optimum conditions of manuring and cultural practices for increasing acre yields, (iii) the survey and investigation of the major diseases of the crop, and (iv) the organisation of seed-certification schemes for the multiplication and distribution of disease-free seed.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any research work is carried on for the proper storage of potato?

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the present I have given the main items of research that are being carried on here. The question of proper storage comes with regard to storage facilities of godowns, refrigerators, and all that.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any arrangement has been made by Government to inform potato growers the results of the research work that is carried on in the Central Potato Research Institute?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The State Governments have been circularised about the work that is being done and the Agriculture Departments of the State Governments carry on the extension

work of taking the results of research to the field.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that the task of informing the growers about the results of this research work rests with the State Governments?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In the Centre, recently, we have an officer, an American gentleman with experience in extension work, who is organising from the Centre. It is essentially for the State Governments and their Agriculture Departments to see that the results of research are made available to the farmer in the field.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any arrangement is made by the Government for the production and supply to the growers of good seeds? I want to know whether there is any seed multiplication farm under the direct supervision of the Government of India or whether there is any machinery for the collection and distribution of seeds to the growers.

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is no scheme as such under the direction of the Central Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Government have at their disposal statistics to show the quantity of potato lost for want of proper storage facilities and the quantity saved by providing proper facilities?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of the question. I can gather the information.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Are Government aware that the Potato Growers Association, Patna, where the Central Research Institute is situated, have announced that up till now no benefit has accrued to the potato growers as a result of the research work made by this Institute, particularly in regard to spraying and weeding, etc?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The Institute was started in Patna recently in March, 1949 and they are carrying on their work.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any experiment has been carried on by this Research Institute for utilising peelings of potato for sowing purposes instead of whole potato?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of the question.

LOCOMOTIVE TECHNICAL ENGINEERS

*2158. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether according to agreement the Locomotive Manufacturing Association of the United Kingdom have sent some technical engineers to train up men and to make progress in the manufacture of locomotives?

(b) What are the terms of their appointment?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. Besides the Technical Consultant who visits Chittaranjan twice a year, the Locomotive Manufacturers' Company have sent one Boiler Foreman, one Frameshop Foreman, one Welder and three Rate Fixers.

(b) The Technical Consultant is paid a lump sum fee of £2,500 per annum. The pay of the technicians varies between £90 to £115 per month. They have been granted free passages for themselves and their families subject to certain conditions. They are provided with free furnished accommodation, if available and are given free medical attention. They are also eligible for leave and free passes.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, may I know whether these technical engineers have got any administrative functions also to discharge or are they to function only as technicians?

Shri Santhanam: No, they are merely technicians.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are their emoluments subject to Indian income-tax?

Shri Santhanam: I have no specific information now with me on that point, but I believe that it is subject to Indian income-tax.

Shri A. C. Guha: How many Indian technicians have been trained by them as yet or have been taken up for training?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, this question covered only the technical engineers who have come from the U. K. and so I have not got the details of the people whom we have sent to London to be trained.

Shri T. N. Singh: For the purpose of the manufacture of boilers am I to understand that the one technician brought from abroad is sufficient?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got information on that particular point. A precise question may please be put and I will collect the information and give the reply.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, Sir, whether these engineers are imparting instruction in a particular institution or are they moving about from place to place?

Shri Santhanam: These technicians work in the workshops and Indian technicians are associated with that work. They do their part of the work.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Will our technicians be sufficiently trained to take independent charge of the workshop?

Shri Santhanam: Already they are quite competent to do the work, but as we have had no regular locomotive workshops and as the foreign technicians have had more experience of this kind of work, we have brought them over to assist us.

QUILON-ERNAKULAM RAILWAY LINE

*2159. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the survey of Quilon-Ernakulam Railway line is complete and if so, what is the lie of the line, coastwise or inland?

(b) When is the work expected to begin?

(c) What are the recommendations of the Cochin Port Authorities regarding this?

(d) Have they proposed any subsidiary lines and if so, what are they?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The survey is in progress. The general lie of the line is inland and not coastwise.

(b) A decision on the commencement of this work will be taken only after the survey is completed.

(c) The Cochin Port Authorities have not made any recommendations regarding this line.

(d) The reply is in the negative.

Shri Alexander: Sir, how many miles have been covered by this survey so far?

Shri Santhanam: Out of the total length of 120 miles, 37 miles have been covered.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the probable period within which this survey work is expected to be completed?

Shri Santhanam: The work of this survey is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Travancore-Cochin Government or any other organisation in that State has submitted any proposal regarding the lie of the land for this railway?

Shri Santhanam: This survey was started at the express request of the Travancore-Cochin Government, and that Government has been kept continuously in touch with the progress of this survey.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Sir, my question was.....

Mr. Speaker: It has been answered.

Shri Alexander: Has the survey to be completed for the whole length first, or will construction work start for the length already surveyed?

Shri Santhanam: This survey will have to be completed first and then the whole matter will be considered by the Central Board of Transport and after the sanction of the Central Board of Transport has been obtained the question of construction will be taken up by the Railway Board.

नील की खेती

*२१६० श्री जांगड़े : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषी मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

[क] भारत में किन किन स्थानों पर नील की खेती की जाती है, तथा कुल कितने एकड़ भूमि में की जाती है ;

[ख] क्या गत बारह वर्षों से नील की खेती में निरन्तर अधोगति होती जा रही है ; तथा

[ग] यदि ऐसा है तो इस अधोगति के कारण क्या है ?

INDIGO CULTIVATION

[*2160. **Shri Jandge:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the places where indigo is grown in India and the total acreage under its cultivation;

(b) whether the indigo plantation has been continuously deteriorating during the last twelve years; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for its deterioration?]

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The important indigo growing States are Madras, Uttar Pradesh and Hyderabad, but indigo is also cultivated on a small scale in Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Bharat, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan. The area under the crop in 1948-49 was 29,926 acres.

(b) No clear trend is observed, but there has been a decrease in the area under indigo since 1945-46.

(c) It is possible that the restoration of normal imports of synthetic dyes since the end of the last war has discouraged indigo cultivation.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद ने ऐसा अनुसंधान किया है कि जिससे नील की खेती कम खर्च और कम मेहनत से की जा सके और प्रति एकड़ पैदावार पहले से बढ़ सके ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Has the Indian Council of Agricultural Research undertaken any research to evolve a more economical and less laborious method for the cultivation of indigo as also to increase its yield per acre?].

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our information is that the synthetic foreign products are more competitive in their prices and people have taken to them.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या विदेशों से नील मंगाई जाती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Is indigo dye imported from abroad?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is the base for the dyes used in industries. So many dyes are used, for instance in the textile industry. There is no encouragement to the indigenous product.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: May I know whether our indigo plants are being exported to foreign countries for the manufacturing of dyes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have no such information, Sir.

Dr. M. M. Das: Out of the indigo produced in India, what proportion is exported to foreign countries?

Shri Thirumala Rao: As I have already said, I have no information on this point.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या भारत में रासायनिक क्रियाओं द्वारा नकली नील तैयार की जाती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Is chemical indigo dye manufactured in India by various chemical processes?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I want notice.

Railway Sidings for Collieries

***2161. Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of collieries in the coal fields of Bihar and Bengal, which are not connected with Railway sidings;

(b) the estimated mileage of Railway Line which will be necessary to connect the collieries with sidings;

(c) whether any representation has been made by the colliery owners and the labour for the construction of the sidings;

(d) if so, when these representations were made and how many miles of sidings have been completed so far;

(e) whether Government have got any plan for sidings in Bengal and Bihar for the next two years and if so, what it is; and

(f) whether it is a fact that colliery owners were prepared to meet the cost of these sidings and if so, why there is delay in construction?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) There are 379 collieries that are not connected by Railway sidings to serve them direct but are served by grant of loading accommodation on railway sidings or assisted or private sidings owned by other coal companies. In addition, there are 20 collieries that are neither connected with railway sidings nor hold any loading accommodation on other sidings nor hold any loading accommodation on other sidings and have not so far approached the Railway for such facilities.

(b) Without a detailed survey it is not possible to estimate the mileage of Railway lines which will be necessary to connect the above collieries nor is it possible to say whether they can be constructed conveniently without interfering with the working of other collieries.

(c) Yes, representations have been received in some cases.

(d) The E. I. Railway received 90 applications for provision of sidings from 1944 uptodate. In the case of 30 of them, sidings have either been constructed or are under construction. 9·95 miles of sidings have been completed on the E. I. Railway in this period. The B. N. Railway received 7 applications from 1947 uptodate. In the case of 3, sidings totalling 3·7 miles have been sanctioned and are under construction.

(e) There is no overall plan for the construction of sidings. Applications for provision of sidings are dealt with individually on the merits of each case.

(f) It is not correct that in every case colliery owners were or are prepared to meet the cost of sidings. Each case has to be investigated to see if the required siding can physically be provided and if the cost of operation would be covered by the traffic offering. This naturally takes some time.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Sir, have there been applications from the owners of the collieries offering to meet the cost of the construction of the sidings and if so, how many of them have made such an offer?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, I anticipated such a question and tried to get information, but unfortunately I have not been able to get the information in time.

Shri R. L. Malviya: What is the estimated dispatch of coal from collieries which are not connected with sidings and the estimated income from their freight?

Shri Santhanam: I don't expect that collieries accounts will be kept for each separate consignment of coal separately. We can only give the total coal moved.

Shri R. L. Malviya: I want the total quantity of coal moved thus and not separate figures.

Shri Santhanam: The total is the total of all collieries whether they are connected and have their own sidings or are accommodated in other sidings. All the coal will be pooled together in one account.

Shri Jnani Ram: How many government collieries have no railway sidings?

Shri Santhanam: Presumably all of them must have their sidings.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if Government gives preference to the construction of sidings where the proprietors of the mines are prepared to meet the cost?

Shri Santhanam: Generally that is the case, but in the case of very small collieries the difficulty of constructing the sidings is that they interfere with other collieries. There are generally Geographical and other difficulties in the matter of construction of sidings for the collieries.

Food Bonus

***2162. Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to each of the States of the Indian Union as bonus on the procurement of foodgrains for the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) how was this bonus utilised by the States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement showing the amounts paid to the various States on account of procurement and export bonus on foodgrains for the years 1948 to 1950 is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 11.] No bonus was paid during the year 1947 as the scheme for payment of bonus commenced from 1st January 1948. Further the statement will show the amount paid during each financial year as the accounts for payment of bonus are maintained according to financial years and not calendar years.

(b) The bonus was utilized by the States to cover the expenditure on schemes for increased procurement and increased production of foodgrains.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: From the statement it appears that in 1948-49 Bihar was paid a bonus of Rs. 9,93,161 and in 1949-50 it was paid Rs. 3,52,494. Is it not a fact that because of the less amount of money paid to Bihar there was less procurement?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. It is the other way about. Because there was less procurement a lesser bonus was paid to them.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Is this bonus being given in the beginning or at the end?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is calculated at the end.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Under the column 'Export' against Bombay a sum of Rs. 31,207 is shown for 1949-50. What does this export mean?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It means an incentive is given to such of the surplus States as have kept their targets. A target is fixed for each State. For instance, if Orissa is asked to export one lakh tons of rice and if it keeps to the schedule, it will be given some bonus. So also in the case of Bombay some millets or something else must have been exported from Bombay to the neighbouring States. That is why this sum has been paid.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that the Government of Bihar required less bonus in the year 1949-50 may I know whether they are successful in procuring more foodgrains from their own account?

Mr. Speaker: Evidently the hon. Member has not understood the first part of the reply. The bonus is given in proportion to the procurement made.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The Government of Bihar did not demand more bonus.

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, no.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know if there was any particular condition attached to the grant of bonus, so that the money could be spent for particular purposes so as to procure more foodgrains?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. 75 per cent. of this bonus, there is a stipulation, should be utilised for increased production and 25 per cent. for increased procurement. Under increased production come items such as subsidising of manures, good seeds etc. Under increased procurement come items such as construction of godowns, award of prizes, etc.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any difference between the surplus and the deficit States in the matter of payment of procurement bonus?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice. There does not seem to be much of difference.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know how the subsidy given as bonus is utilised in correlation to the grow more food grants made? The Minister stated that part of the 25 per cent. is utilised as procurement bonus for grow more food purposes. I want to know whether there is any co-ordination between the grow more food grants and this particular grant.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes. There will not be any overlapping of that money and this money. The grow more food grants are for various items under that.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know if any of this money was to be spent for minor irrigation works? Also may I know if any of the States have put in this money for minor irrigation projects?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is open to them to spend money on minor irrigation projects. That comes under the category of increased production.

Conference of the Ministers of Agriculture

*2163. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the dates on which the last conference of the Ministers of Agriculture of all States in India was held?

(b) Did the conference consider the problem of Land Reforms as arising out of the Zamindari abolition and if so, what decisions if any, were taken?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) 30th April, and 1st May, 1949.

(b) No.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if the last conference of Agricultural Ministers considered among other things how to bring about a uniform policy of land tenure in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got any information on that subject.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know if the conference considered the question of consolidation of holdings?

Mr. Speaker: Has the Minister got the report of the conference?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir.

Shri Kamath: Did the Centre issue any instructions or directive to the State Governments as regards the policy or, rather, legislation to be sponsored for the abolition of Zamindari and land reform or was the matter left.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That was why I asked him whether he has got the proceedings of the conference. The best course would be to circulate it. Otherwise any Member may ask on any point which he thinks should have been taken up and there will be no end to supplementary questions.

Shri Kamath: What happened later, after the conference was over?

Mr. Speaker: It is for the State to legislate on that point.

Shri Kamath: That is true, but was there any directive from the Centre...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: In view of the fact that several high courts have held void the Zamindari Abolition Acts as passed by the States, is it proposed to call a conference of Agricultural Ministers from the different States over this problem.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there was any proposal in this conference regarding the organisation of development boards in States for increased cultivation.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have already said that he should place the report of the conference on the Table.

Shri Thirumala Rao: The conference was convened to consider the question of the Grow More Food Campaign and it ended there.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Railway Booking of Coal Consignments

*2164. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will **the Minister of Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal consignments from mines are not accepted in Banaras—Asansol branch of the Oudh Tirhut Railway due to lack of wagons; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, since what time this situation on the Oudh Tirhut Railway has been continuing?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The question is not quite clear. Banaras Asansol Section is part of main line of the E. I. Railway and not branch line of the O. T. Railway. No difficulty is experienced in either loading in coalfields or in movement to Banaras of coal traffic for this section.

(b) Does not arise.

Partition Council

*2165. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will **the Minister of Transport** be pleased to state how many of the decisions of the Partition Council have been implemented up-to-date?

(b) How many times have the Committee met and in what places?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Most of the decisions of the Partition Council have been implemented except a few relating to the allocation of assets and liabilities.

(b) The Partition Council met twenty times in New Delhi.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Council is still living?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is not functioning.

Shri Kamath: What have been the difficulties in the way of the implementation of the decisions regarding assets and liabilities?

Shri Gopalaswami: So far as assets go the main outstanding problem is about the transfer of assets of the issue department and on that there is difference between the Government of India and Pakistan as regards the amount to be transferred. That is why it is held up.

Shri Kamath: Was this matter discussed at any of the recent Indo-Pakistan conferences?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think there was some discussion at a recent conference.

Shri Kamath: No decision?

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the exact number of decisions which have been implemented and decisions which have not been implemented? Is there any hope of the implementation hereafter of those decisions which have not been implemented so far?

Shri Gopalaswami: A host of decisions have been taken about various matters in connection with the Partition. There were about nine or ten expert committees, which sat upon various disputes and each committee arrived at a number of decisions. Most of them have been carried out.

Telegrams in Devnagri Script

*2166. **Shri Deogirikar:** Will **the Minister of Communications** be pleased to state when the telegrams in Devnagri script will be started in Poona, Sholapur, Belgaum and other places?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): Telegrams in Devnagri script will be accepted at Poona, Sholapur, Belgaum and Bhusaval as soon as the telegraphists from these places, who are now under-going training in Hindi telegraphy, will have qualified in signalling messages in Hindi. It is expected that this will be in May, 1951.

The question of extending the service to other stations will be considered when there is likelihood of sufficient traffic being offered.

Shri Deogirikar: May I know whether there is any proposal to introduce telegrams in Devnagri script in all the telegraph offices?

Shri Kidwai: That is the object in view.

Shri Deogirikar: Is there any plan for it?

Shri Kidwai: We are training telegraphists, and every now and then we extend it to such areas where we think sufficient traffic will be available.

Shri Deogirikar: Does this involve Government any additional expenditure so far as the working of the scheme is concerned?

Shri Kidwai: Except for the fact that the services of telegraphists who have been trained in Hindi are not fully utilised, there is no extra expenditure for training.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the difficulty in introducing telegrams in Devnagri script in other places also and what steps are being taken to remove that difficulty?

Shri Kidwai: I have just explained it.

ATTACK ON VILLAGERS

*2167. **Shri Saprawnga:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in January 1951, certain villagers of Tamenglong Sub-Division in Manipur State barbarously attacked the neighbouring villagers with deadly weapons;

(b) what was the cause of the attack;

(c) how many persons were killed and wounded;

(d) how many persons have been arrested so far in that connection;

(e) how many of them have been prosecuted; and

(f) whether the incident had anything to do with communism or communalism?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) It is a fact that there was a riot with three murders in village KAIKAO in Tamenglong Sub-Division Lathis and Daos were used. This rioting took place between two parties of Kabui Nagas;

(b) The rioting took place over a land dispute;

(c) Three persons were killed and fifteen injured on one side and eight persons were injured on the other;

(d) Eighteen;

(e) The case is still under investigation;

(f) No. As I have said, the incident took place over a land dispute.

Shri Saprawnga: May I know whether it is a fact that prior to this riot the Officer in charge of this area had been informed of the impending danger but that no proper action was taken?

Shri Gopalaswami: Action was taken as promptly as possible. The matter is now under investigation.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether it is a fact that one of the persons arrested and kept in custody as an under-trial prisoner died suddenly due to the foul play of the jailers?

Mr. Speaker: I would request hon. Members not to make insinuations. The hon. Member may enquire about the fact of death or the cause of death but he need not necessarily say it was due to foul play.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: I have got a report here.....

Mr. Speaker: He may have anything, but he is making an allegation against an officer who is not here to defend himself, and questions which make insinuations are not admissible.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I ask then whether it is a fact that one of the persons arrested and kept in custody as an under-trial prisoner has died suddenly, and, if so, what is the reason?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no information of any such person dying suddenly. All the information I have received I have given already.

Shri Chaliha: Is it a fact that no military or police help was rendered to these villagers for days together and they were left to their own wits?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have no information which could confirm the hon. Member's statement.

TELEPHONES IN PART B STATES

*2168. **Shri Obaidullah:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government contemplate the introduction of Message Rate System and Own Your Phone System in the Part 'B' States as has been done in other places?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (i) Message Rate System has already been introduced in Indore (Madhya Bharat). There is no other place in Part 'B' States under consideration just now, but message rate system will be introduced in any place in Part 'B' States where considered necessary

(ii) The 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme has already been introduced in some Part 'B' States, namely (1) Hyderabad (2) Indore City (Madhya Bharat) (3) Rajkot (Saurashtra) and (4) Bhatinda (P.E.P.S.U.).

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know to what extent this scheme has been successful?

Shri Kidwai: It has been successful to the extent that it has brought some money for extending the telephone system.

श्री के० के० व्यास : क्या यह सच है कि गवर्नमेंट ने इन्दौर में टेलीफोन एडवाइजरी कमेटी बनाई थी और उसने जिन लोगों को टेलीफोन देने की सिफारिश की थी उन्हें टैलीफ़ोन नहीं दिये गये ? यदि हां, तो क्यों ?

[**Shri K. K. Vyas:** Is it a fact that in Indore the Government had set up an Advisory Committee for the grant of telephone connections and that the connections were not granted to the persons recommended by that Committee? If so, the reason for it?]

श्री किदवाई : जो सवाल था उससे यह जवाब नहीं पैदा होता, वरना मैं इसकी इतला मंगवा लेता ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** It does not arise out of this question, otherwise I would have obtained the necessary information.]

श्री के० के० व्यास : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट एडवाइजरी कमेटी क्यों बनाती है और वह जो सिफ़ारिश करती है वह सिफ़ारिश मान्य होती है या नहीं ?

[**Shri K. K. Vyas:** May I know the principle governing the appointment of the various Advisory Committees by the Government and whether their recommendations are binding on the Government or not?]

Mr. Speaker: All these questions do not arise from the present question.

श्री बलवन्त सिन्हा मेहता : क्या मैं न सकता हूं कि उदयपुर से वांसवाड़ा जाने वाली लाइन जिसका बनना शुरु हो गया था, वह पूरी हो गयी है ?

[**Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** May I know whether the Udaipur-Banswara line, the construction of which had actually been taken up has since been completed?]

श्री किदवाई : उसकी मुझे कोई इत्तला नहीं है ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** I have no information on the point.]

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Is it a fact that the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs has served individual notices on telephone subscribers in the Mysore State stating that from the 16th August telephone rates would be charged on the basis of the distance at which the telephones are situated from the exchange?

Shri Kidwai: I don't think the hon. Member's information is correct.

श्री सरवते : इन्दौर शहर में कौन सी तारीख से यह सिस्टम अमल में आने को है ।

[**Shri Sarwate:** With effect from which date is this system expected to be introduced in Indore?]

श्री किदवाई : कौन स्कीम ?

[**Shri Kidwai:** Which scheme?]

श्री सरवते : ये ओन यूअर टेलीफोन सिस्टम ।

[**Shri Sarwate:** This 'Own Your Telephone' System.]

श्री किदवाई : लोगों ने रुपया दाखिल करना शुरू कर दिया है ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** People have started depositing money.]

श्री किदवाई : यह स्कीम कौन सी तारीख से अमल में आने को है ?

[**Shri Sarwate:** From when is this scheme expected to come in force?]

श्री किदवाई : अमल में आ चुकी है ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** It is already in force.]

ARTESIAN TUBE WELL BELT

*2169. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact

that an Artesian Tube-Well belt was discovered recently in Yamuna area in Etawah District by the Pilot Development Project?

(b) If so, what are the probable fruits to be derived from the discovery?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) It is yet too early to draw conclusions because only two wells capable of irrigating 50 acres each have so far been constructed and the flow of water has to be watched for about a year before one can judge the full likely results of the discovery.

Shri Sivaprakasam: May I know whether there is any scheme before the Government to take full advantage of such discoveries?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, when it is found by experience that there is sufficient water available, it will be extended.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total area where these artesian wells are found and whether it is an artificially irrigated area, that is canal irrigated area?

Shri Thirumala Rao: This artesian well belt has been discovered in the Catchar area along the Yamuna River in the Etawah District. I have not got the exact extent of the area.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Are there any artesian wells in Madras State?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I know there are some in that State—it is such a big State.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, I wanted to know the area of the belt. If the hon. Member has not got that information, I want to know at least whether the area is artificially irrigated, that is a canal irrigated area?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is in the Indo-Gangetic plain and it is irrigated.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Telephones in Amraoti

***2170. Shri M. A. Hasan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what is the total number of telephones in Amraoti District?

(b) Are the postmen who are qualified given facilities and chances for upper services in the Posts and Telegraphs Department?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 107.

(b) Yes.

Jagirdars in Rajasthan

***2171. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that instructions were issued from the Ministry of States to the Rajasthan Government to reconfer the powers on the Jagirdars who were totally deprived of them in 1948?

(b) If so, was it done on the recommendations of the Venkatachar Committee?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). No Sir. What has actually happened is that on a representation of Jagirdars to the Secretary, States Ministry, alleging *inter alia* that certain executive orders passed or action taken were outside the law passed by the late Ministry of the old Rajasthan Union, the whole position was examined last October-November by the then Rajasthan Government. During this examination it transpired that no rules had been framed as required under the law and executive action had been taken by local officials which was not justified by law. In consultation with their legal advisers the Rajasthan Government made certain recommendations to the States Ministry for advice as to the rectification of the whole position. These recommendations were examined here in consultation with the Law Ministry and instructions generally in line with their own suggestions were communicated to the Rajasthan Government. In brief the resultant position is that while the police, magisterial, judicial and revenue powers of the Jagirdars stand resumed and the Government would continue to collect the revenue payable to the Jagirdars, the latter have been allowed to exercise certain rights which had not been resumed under any law. What has been done, therefore, is to make the executive action conform to the terms of the Ordinances which had been issued already and has no reference to the recommendations of the Venkatachar Committee Report.

Reception Tower at Indore Aerodrome

***2172. Shri Sarwate:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Reception Tower at the Indore (Madhya Bharat) Aerodrome is not yet opened for the use of the passengers?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

(c) What steps have Government taken or are taking to open it?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It was only in September, 1950, that the aerodrome at Indore was taken over by the Civil Aviation Department from the Government of Madhya Bharat. The building, which is new, was not equipped with furniture, fittings or other amenities for the public. Steps have been duly taken to provide the necessary equipment and facilities and it is expected to bring the building into use in the new financial year.

Lalkua-Rampur Railway Line

***2173. Col. B. H. Zaidi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for the construction of a branch line between Lalkua and Rampur in Uttar Pradesh has been under consideration: and

(b) if so, whether the line is likely to be constructed in the near future?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) The construction of this line, if approved by the Central Board of Transport, may be started during 1953-54, if the necessary funds are then available.

Tube Wells in Madhya Pradesh

***2174. Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the scheme to sink 5,000 new wells and to repair and renovate 2,000 old ones under the Grow More Food plan by the Madhya Pradesh Government is estimated to cost Rs. 1,25,000 and that half of the cost will be contributed by the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): A scheme for the construction of 5,000 new wells and repairs to 2,000 wells is included in the Grow More Food programme for 1951-52, received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh. This scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 35,20,000 (Rs. 28,16,000 by way of loan and Rs. 7,04,000 as subsidy). The State Government has asked for a loan of Rs. 28,16,000 and a grant of Rs. 3,52,000 from the Government of India for this scheme.

Postal Life Insurance Policies

***2175. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to his answer to my Unstarred Question No. 75 asked on the 20th December, 1950 regarding Postal Life Insurance Policies and state:

(a) whether the question of keeping in force the Postal Life Insurance Policies for which the Government of Pakistan is responsible and the holders of which have come over to India has been decided; and

(b) if so, what the decision is?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). There has been no change in the position which was explained in answer to hon. Member's Unstarred Question No. 75 asked on the 20th December, 1950. The matter is under reference with the Pakistan Government.

Supply of Food Grains

***2176. Shri Sardar Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what provisions Government have made to ensure an adequate supply of foodgrains for the people in the event of an outbreak of hostilities and our failure to reach self-sufficiency in food by that time in view of the critical international situation?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): It is not in the public interest to answer the question in detail but I can assure the hon. Member that the point raised by him is very much in the forefront of the problems being considered by Government.

Import of Dates

***2177. Shri Bhatkar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the countries from which dates are imported?

(b) What quantity, out of this, has been obtained as a gift and what has been paid for?

(c) What is the price at which it has been purchased?

(d) Has any quantity out of this been purchased through an agent?

(e) Had this agent previously undertaken to supply barley and was this barley found mixed with sand?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). About 18,000 tons of dates have been purchased by the Government of India from Iraq for import during the current year. This is exclusive of fifty tons of dates presented to India as a gift by the Government of Iraq. Up-to-date information regarding import of dates by trade is not available.

(c) £18 per ton C. I. F. Bombay for 10,000 tons and £ 17-5-0 per ton C. I. F. Bombay for the balance.

(d) The purchase has been made from an exporting firm in Basrah acting as a principal, not as an agent.

(e) Yes. Some barley was purchased in 1949 through the agency of the same firm. Government did not receive any complaints about admixture of sand with the barley purchased from the firm.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY FOR CALCUTTA

*2178. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether any foreign experts were invited to examine the possibility of constructing an underground railway in Calcutta?

(b) Have they submitted any report to Government and if so, to what effect?

(c) What is the estimated cost of the scheme?

(d) Have Government arrived at any decision to give effect to the scheme?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes: by the Government of West Bengal who propose to sponsor the scheme.

(b) Yes, Preliminary investigations for the construction of an underground railway in Calcutta have been conducted by the French Metro Mission. Their project report has been examined by an expert Consulting Engineer from the United Kingdom (Mr. H. D. Morgan of Messrs. William Haldrow and Partners London) and his report is under examination of the State Government.

(c) Not known.

(d) Not yet.

कांदों पर कर

*2179. **श्री आर० एस० तिवारी:** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

[क] क्या विन्ध्य प्रदेश के गौंडों को, जिन्हें कई मास तक निरन्तर खाद्यान्न प्राप्त नहीं होते हैं, कांदों जड़ों पर, जिन्हें वह जंगलों में अपने प्रयोग के लिए खोद लेते हैं, कर देना पड़ता है ;

[ख] विन्ध्य प्रदेश में इस कांदों पर लगाये गये कर से कितना राजस्व प्राप्त होता है; तथा

[ग] बिजावर तहसील के गौंडों की मूख्य खाद्य वस्तु क्या है ?

TAX ON *Kando* ROOTS

[*2179. **Shri R. S. Tewari:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gonds of Vindhya Pradesh, who do not get any food for months together, have to pay some tax on the *Kando* roots which they dig out for their use from the jungles;

(b) what is the amount of revenue received from this *Kando* tax in Vindhya Pradesh; and

(c) what is the staple food of Gonds in Bijawar Tehsil?]

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) No Sir, there is no such tax.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Barley, Mohwa and Kodo.

PLANTAIN PRODUCTION AND EXPORT

*2180. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the production of plantains in the State of Bombay, and how many acres of land have been utilised for this purpose?

(b) Is it a fact that the Bombay Government has moved the Indian Union to impose restriction on the export of the plantains?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The production of plantains in Bombay State during 1947-48 is estimated at about 5·21 million maunds. The area under the crop during the same year was reported to be 39,365 acres.

(b) Yes. The matter is under consideration.

RAILWAY LINK OF HILI WITH OUDH TIRHUT RAILWAY

*2181. **Shri S. M. Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation or deputation urging the construction of a railway line of about thirty miles long connecting Hili, an important trade centre, in the district of West Dinajpur, West Bengal with Oudh Tirhut Railway in the same district?

(b) if so, have Government taken up the work?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Surveys have been completed of two lines, one between Eklakhi and Hili, and the other between Raiganj and Chhilampur, and the projects are being placed before the Central Board of Transport for consideration.

RESERVE BANK SURVEY REPORT ON GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN

132. **Shri V. K. Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Reserve Bank Survey Report of Grow More Food campaign published in the 'Hindu' dated the 21st February 1951?

(b) What is the amount paid by the Government of India to the Bombay State for the Grow More Food campaign for the last five years?

(c) Have Government received any reports regarding their produce during these years?

(d) Do Government agree with the reasons given in the report for the failure of the Grow More Food Campaign in Bombay?

(e) What are the measures contemplated by the Government of India to rectify the defects shown in the report to step up production of food in Bombay and other States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 12.]

(c) Yes; a statement showing the targets and achievements is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 13.]

(d) The Grow More Food Campaign has not failed in Bombay and the question therefore does not arise.

(e) The defects shown in the report relate to the year 1948-49 based on investigations made with figures for 1947-48 and are based on a survey conducted in 5 *talukas* of the Bombay State. These have been rectified through the various measures taken since then. These measures are set out in the Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, which is being placed on the Table of the House.

DERAILMENT (ENQUIRY)

133. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a report of the inquiry held by the Government regarding the derailment of 4-Up Madras Mail at Haridaspur on 17th November, 1950;

(b) if so, what is the report; and

(c) what action have Government taken on the recommendations made by the Inspector?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The Preliminary Report of the Government Inspector of Railways has been received. His final report is awaited.

(b) His provisional conclusion is that the derailment of 4-Up Madras Mail at Haridaspur station was caused by the Driver of the train taking the turnout from the main line to the second loop at a speed in excess of the permissible limit of 10 miles per hour.

(c) Necessary action will be taken on receipt of the final report of the Government Inspector. The recommendations are, in the meantime, under examination.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 14th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II

*2182. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have deputed a historian to write a history of World War II; and

(b) if so, the purpose and perspective of such history?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) A history of the Indian Armed Forces in World War II is being written under the supervision of a historian, who has been appointed Director of the Combined Inter-Services Historical Section, a joint organisation of India and Pakistan. He is assisted by a staff of civilian and military officers.

(b) The purpose of this history, which will be in several volumes, is to give a detailed narrative of all operations in which Indian formations took part as well as the general military effort of India. This will be an official reference book and will deal with strategical and tactical aspects of the operations, general military organisation in India as it was developed to cope with the expansion of the Armed Forces and problems connected with the production of equipment, supply, transport and other phases of military administration, besides the effect of the impact of war on the politico-economic structure of India. A number of volumes will also deal with the medical aspects of war, the organisation of the medical services, their part in the campaigns, and the diseases and disorders which they had to tackle in the peculiar conditions of war.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what part of the expenditure is met by Pakistan and whether Pakistan has any control over the C.I.S.H.S.?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Under the mutual agreement we are to pay 70 per cent of the expenses and Pakistan 30 per cent. Also under the same agreement, our Defence Department have complete control over this and Pakistan does not exercise any control.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any Britisher was associated with the work in the previous stages and, if so, on what terms was he employed?

Major-General Himatsinhji: He is not connected with the Combined Inter Services Historical Section, but at the end of the war General Auchinleck decided that a popular history of the war should be written, and a Britisher by name Compton Mackenzie was selected for this purpose.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Have Government any information that this gentleman is now engaged in writing a history with anti-Indian bias, with the same material?

Major-General Himatsinhji: He has written volume I and is writing volume II, under certain terms and conditions. One of the conditions is that before these volumes are published by him the manuscript must be approved by the Defence Department, Volume I has been approved, and as I said earlier he is still writing volume II. I understand he may write a novel also, but we will see that in this case also he does not write anything derogatory to our country.

Shri Kamath: Will this history of the Armed Forces record the activities of the forces in all the theatres of war including those theatres where the I.N.A. appeared against them?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The history of the war will contain about thirty volumes the contents of which

CONFISCATION OF GOODS

*2186. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount of fines and penalties imposed and recovered by the Collectors of Customs at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras under the Sea Customs and other Acts during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 (each year separately)?

(b) What was the total realisation of confiscated goods under the above Acts during the same period?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). A statement giving the particulars required in part (a) of the question is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 14]. Information required in part (b) is being collected, and will be placed on the Table of the House when complete.

Shri Rathnaswamy: How many persons were found to have violated the Sea Customs and other Acts and what were the specific charges which led to the confiscation of the goods?

Shri Tyagi: I have no information ready about the number of cases.

Shri T. N. Singh: Are Government aware that a number of goods imported in violation of the Customs Acts have been released to the importers on payment of certain penalties or certain assurances for production of licences later on, and if so, in how many such cases have Government condoned such imports by imposition of merely fines?

Shri Tyagi: The rule generally is that when such goods arrive at the ports, action is taken against the importers. They are fined for the infringement of the law, or else they are required to pay a penalty to get the confiscated property released.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know the total amount of fine realised during the last three years?

Shri Tyagi: The statement I have laid on the Table gives the information. However, I shall read out the figures for 1950. In this year, in Bombay the amount of fine imposed was Rs. 1,56,39,320 while the amount realised was Rs. 29,20,128. In Calcutta the amount of fine imposed was Rs. 54,72,567 while the amount realised was Rs. 37,03,638. In Madras the amount of fine imposed was Rs. 11,01,516 while the amount realised was Rs. 10,51,069.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the amount of fine imposed in Bombay was Rs. 1,56,39,320 while the amount realised was Rs. 29,20,128. May I know whether it is not possible to recover the balance?

Shri Tyagi: When such fines are imposed and the articles are disposed of through auction, the first charge is the shippers' charge. The second charge is the customs duty. The third charge is port charge. It is only after all these charges have been met that we can realise the fine. This explains the discrepancy between the amount of fine imposed and the amount of fine realised.

Shri Sidhva: Are the remaining amounts likely to be recovered, or are they a bad debt?

Shri Tyagi: I would like to have notice of the question.

PRODUCTION OF VERMICULITE

*2187. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the approximate world production of Vermiculite and whether this mineral is produced in India and if so, in which States and in what quantity;

(b) whether this mineral is consumed locally or exported outside India;

(c) whether it is a fact that deposits of this mineral have been discovered very recently in the State of Ajmer and if so, what are the potentialities of the source; and

(d) what steps have been or are being taken to exploit the same to its maximum capacity?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa:) (a) A statement giving the annual production of screened and cleaned vermiculite for the period 1940-48 as shown in the Minerals Year Book 1948, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure 15.] Occurrences of vermiculite have been reported from Mysore, Coimbatore, Ajmer-Merwara and Bankura.

(b) No information is available as regards the local consumption of the indigenous material. There is no export.

(c) Yes, Sir. A deposit has been found in the vicinity of Gudas in Ajmer-Merwara and the first reports indicate that considerable amount of the mineral might be present. Further prospecting will, however, have to be done before the deposit can be proved.

(d) Exploitation of the minerals is the concern of State Governments.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: What is vermiculite?

Mr. Speaker: It need not be replied to.

MILITARY ORDERS AND TITLES

*2188. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recipients of certain Military orders, titles and medals awarded during the British regime were entitled to certain cash payments;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the names of such orders etc. and the monetary payment attached to each such decoration; and

(c) whether such orders and distinctions continue to be recognised and cash payments made to holders thereof by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes. Armed Forces personnel other than officers were entitled to monthly allowances for certain military decorations.

(b) A statement in this respect is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 16].

(c) Yes.

Shri Raj Kanwar: May I take it that in consequence of the general non-recognition of the Titles and Awards granted by the previous Government none of the recipients of the military Titles and Awards has been adversely affected in so far as the monetary payments attached thereto are concerned?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir.

Shri A. B. Gurung: May I know whether any provision is made for recipients of military Orders and Titles to receive land in lieu of monetary grants?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Promises might have been made by the previous Government and if so they were fulfilled. At present there is no such case pending. Perhaps we may consider the question later on, as cases arise.

Shri A. B. Gurung: May I know whether the Distinguished Service Order was practically reserved for officers only?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. In the past that was so, but we have now the Mahavir Chakra which is the equivalent to the Distinguished Service Order, which can also be awarded to other ranks.

ADVISORY COUNCIL TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF AJMER

*2189. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) when an Advisory Council to the Chief Commissioner of Ajmer was set up and whether it is still functioning;

(b) whether there existed a deadlock between the Chief Commissioner and the Advisory Council and if so, when and the reasons which led to such a deadlock;

(c) whether any correspondence has passed between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Member or Members of the Advisory Council of Ajmer in connection with such deadlock; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to place a copy of the same on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). April 1947. The Council is still in existence but the Members have abstained since 4th May, 1950, from participating in its meetings or in the meetings of any of its subcommittees, as according to them, the Chief Commissioner was not effectively associating the Council in the discharge of his administrative functions.

(c) Yes.

(d) No; much of the correspondence was personal and it is not desirable to lay copies on the Table of the House as this would not help to solve the problem.

However, I would inform the House that the late Sardar Patel in his letter dated the 14th July, 1950, informed Shri Kaul that he was satisfied that there were very few cases—not more than half a dozen—in which the advice of the Council was not accepted and that the reasons given for not accepting that advice seemed to be sound. In his letter dated the 20th January, 1951, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs informed the same Member that, after going through all the papers, he came to the conclusion, as Sardar Patel did, that the Chief Commissioner had not violated the principles underlying the setting up of the Advisory Council; and that where there had been difference, it had arisen in matters of administration which under any democratic set up would be settled by the Executive and would not be the concern of a Legislature. He further stated that, Ajmer being a small area with a

population of less than three quarters of a million and with a revenue amounting only to 34 lakhs, the setting up of a responsible Government was not in consonance with the general policy which the Government of India had been following for the last three years.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the correspondence that passed between Mr. Kaul and the hon. the Home Minister was conducted by him in his capacity as a member of the Advisory Council and addressed to the hon. the Home Minister in his capacity as the Home Minister of the Government of India and if so how can this correspondence be called personal correspondence?

Shri Gadgil: I have little to add to the answer given. It will not help the solution of this problem on which every Member of this House is very keen.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the only object of setting up these Advisory Councils was to give increasing association to the members in the administration?

Shri Gadgil: The object of the creation of this Advisory Council has been well stated in the resolution. The Chief Commissioner will seek the advice of the Council on:

(i) all financial matters except those which are not subject to the vote of the Legislative Assembly;

(ii) matters of administration involving general policy, schemes of development and proposals for legislation; not on matters relating to day to day administration, or to individual appointments not involving a principle of importance;

(iii) general questions touching the implementation of general policy and schemes of development; and

(iv) any other matter which the Chief Commissioner or the Government of India may refer to the Council.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that Ajmer being a small area and with limited finances, the Government of India do not intend establishing responsible Government. May I know whether it is the intention of the Government of India to merge Ajmer with Rajasthan?

Shri Gadgil: A resolution in this connection is going to be moved by Mr. Bhargava on Friday next, when the policy of Government will be made known.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the matters on which the Chief Commissioner over-ruled the unanimous decision of the Council were matters connected with the policy of control, prohibition and education?

Shri Gadgil: The reason why the Chief Commissioner did not accept the advice of the Advisory Council was first that they were beyond the scope of the Council and secondly any acceptance of their advice would have resulted in some administrative difficulties.

EXCHANGE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARTICLES BETWEEN INDIA AND INDONESIA

*2190. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that arrangements have been made for an exchange of articles of archaeological interest between India and Indonesia?

(b) If so, will there be an exchange of actual specimens or only photographs of the specimens?

(c) What are the articles and for what will they be exchanged?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any approach has been made for loan of some of the manuscripts from either side—India or Indonesia—for study and historical research?

Shri A. P. Jain: No such approach has been made between the two Governments. President Soekarno has presented to the hon. Prime Minister some five dozen *waygnas*, a few swords and daggers and some films relating to the visit of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose to Indonesia.

IRON LUNGS

*2191. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the hospitals which have been equipped with Iron Lungs imported last year;

(b) the purposes for which they have been used and the number of patients treated by them up till now;

(c) the total expenditure incurred for procuring these lungs from abroad; and

(d) the contribution of the W.H.O. on this account?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) In 1949 twenty Iron Lungs were donated by UNICEF to the Government of India. The following hospitals have been equipped with these Lungs:

(1) Safdarjang Annexe Hospital, New Delhi ...	2
(2) Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi ...	2
(3) Willingdon Hospital, New Delhi ...	1

The remaining 15 Iron Lungs have been distributed among the Government Medical Store Depots at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Karnal. They are available for issue to hospitals requiring them, under instructions of the Administrative Medical Officers of the States concerned.

(b) Iron Lungs are used in cases suffering from respiratory failure. Figures are not available as to how many cases other than those suffering from Poliomyelitis have been treated. Five sufferers from Poliomyelitis have been treated.

(c) As these Lungs were donated by UNICEF, no expenditure was incurred by Government.

(d) The total value of the Iron Lungs inclusive of transportation charges, etc., which was $23,096-45 cents, was borne by WHO in the first instance and was later reimbursed to them by UNICEF.

Dr. M. M. Das: The hon. Minister stated that in addition to poliomyelitis there are other diseases for which iron lungs are used, in respect of which she is not able to give the figures. May I know the number of poliomyelitis cases in which iron lungs have been used?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have already stated in my reply that five sufferers from poliomyelitis have been treated.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the expenditure incurred in connection with the visit of the hon. Minister and D. G., Health Services to Bombay, for the ceremonial reception of these iron lungs?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No such expenditure was incurred. The lungs were not received by anybody being specially sent for the purpose.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand the hon. Minister to say that no expenditure by the Government of India was incurred?

Mr. Speaker: None in connection with the ceremonials.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know, Sir, if any foreigners inspired by humanitarian motives made any presentation of iron lungs to Indian hospitals and if so who are those and how many were presented?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not aware of anybody except the UNICEF having donated iron lungs to India.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there are instances where the iron lungs in certain of the hospitals are not used because of lack of expert operatives?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That is not so; they are being used whenever necessary.

Shri Kamath: In the case of those five patients who were suffering from poliomyelitis who were treated with the iron lungs, is it a fact, Sir, that complaint or reports were made to the hon. Minister that the lungs could not be efficiently worked, and if so, how many of those cases proved fatal?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That is not so, Sir. Two of the cases that were treated by iron lungs in Delhi recovered.

STUDENTS SENT ABROAD FOR STUDIES

*2192. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons sent abroad by the Central Government for advanced studies during the year 1950;

(b) the number of persons who have returned to India in 1950 after completion of such studies;

(c) how many of the persons who have returned, been provided with posts befitting their new qualifications;

(d) how many of them are still holding their old posts; and

(e) how many of them are still without any employment?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 29.

(b) 191.

(c) 93.

(d) 32.

(e) 66.

Babu Gopinath Singh: How many of the persons sent abroad for training at the expense of the Government of India have been permitted to take up employment in private concerns, because Government could not provide them with suitable jobs in their own undertakings or offices?

Shri A. P. Jain: Out of these 66 persons, those who have finished the prescribed period during which they are under an obligation to serve the Government of India, are at liberty to seek private employment.

Babu Gopinath Singh: How many persons are being sent abroad this year and are these persons sent with a view to their being employed on particular jobs on their return?

Shri A. P. Jain: Persons are sent abroad with a view to their being trained in subjects for which there is not adequate training facilities here. I am afraid I cannot give offhand the number of scholars sent abroad this year.

Shri V. K. Reddy: What are the subjects in which these students are trained?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is a long list running to about 3½ pages. If the House desires it, I shall read it out.

Mr. Speaker: I was going to suggest that these matters or points have been the subject matter of questions and supplementaries in this House more than at least twice or thrice, if not half a dozen times. I do not therefore see any utility of pursuing these. If hon. Members want information they can have it from the hon. Minister.

Shrimati Durgabai: With regard to the policy of sending this party...

Mr. Speaker: That also has been stated in this House a number of times.

Shri R. Velayudhan: With reference to the difficulties after devaluation...

Mr. Speaker: That has also been put. If hon. Members will refer to the records they will find the information.

Shri R. Khan: Is it a fact that when these students return after advanced studies, they are not appointed to posts befitting their qualifications?

Mr. Speaker: That is an allegation. I am going to the next question.

Colonists sent to Andamans

*2193. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of sending East Bengal displaced persons to Andamans is still being followed;

(b) whether any batch of colonists other than displaced persons has been sent to the Andamans through the help of some Christian Missionary society; and

(c) if so, the number of such colonists and how and where they are being colonised?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) If the hon. Member is under the impression that there is a scheme exclusively for the settling of East Bengal displaced persons in the Islands. then he is not correct.

(b) and (c). The hon. Member probably has in mind the settlement in the Andamans of certain Indian evacuees from Burma. This question was first mooted by an Association known as the Burma Indian Andamans Settlement Association, comprised almost entirely of Indians retrenched from Government service in Burma. Subsequently, a Society known as the Burma Indian Rehabilitation Society was formed on a co-operative basis to raise funds for the settlement of Indian evacuees in Burma. A batch of 12 families (65 persons) selected by the Indian Embassy, Rangoon, in consultation with the Burma Indian Rehabilitation Society has been sent to the Andamans. They are being settled as agriculturists in the Shoal Bay area. I lay on the Table a statement showing the concessions offered to them. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 17.] The people who have been sent out under the auspices of the Burma Indian Rehabilitation Society are Christians but the Society itself is not a missionary society.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what steps the Government are taking now for sending East Bengal displaced persons for colonising the Andamans?

Shri Gadgil: So far as the wider question is concerned every encouragement is given, and I may sum up the position as it stands today. There are now 284 displaced families comprising 1,153 persons in the Andamans. Of these 230 families are agriculturists and they have been allotted 1,719 acres—valley land 1,212 acres and hills and slopes 507 acres. The balance of 54 families are artisans. Of these 7 have been rehabilitated. The remaining 47 who reached the Andamans recently have not yet been settled. They have been placed on quarantine on account of an outbreak of small-pox among them. The families referred to in the reply are in addition.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government any idea of sending more East Bengal displaced families to the Andamans in the near future?

Shri Gadgil: What I have stated is in implementation of the general policy to encourage settlement in the Andamans.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: May I know whether Government have given a definite assurance that priority would be given to refugees in the Andamans, and in view of the fact that there are large numbers of refugees waiting to be rehabilitated there and arrangements have not yet been made, would the Government give an assurance that priority will be given to refugees and that others will not be sent there until refugees have been accommodated?

Shri Gadgil: It is not possible for me to give an assurance straightaway, but the position, as I have explained, is that all these families are from displaced persons except a few—17 families—from the retrenched staff from Burma.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या यह सत्य है कि उन कैदियों को जिन्हें काले पानी की सजा दी जाती है अब भी अंडमन भेजा जाता है ?

[Shri Jangde: Is it a fact that criminals, who are awarded life imprisonment, are still sent to Andamans?]

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether criminals are being taken to the Andamans even now.

Shri Gadgil: As far as I understand, the Andamans as a penal settlement has been abolished years ago.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not true that there are many East Bengal D. P. families ready to go to the Andamans, and, if so, may I know whether Government are agreeable to take them as soon as possible?

Shri Gadgil: It may be true, but I have already stated that the general policy of the Government of India is to encourage such settlement.

Shri Poonacha: Is it a fact that this facility that is given to East Bengal displaced persons is not being taken full advantage of and that quite a number of families have returned from the Andamans, and, if so, may I know whether Government would examine this position and allow persons from the different parts of India to go and settle there?

Mr. Speaker: Has he heard the question?

Shri Gadgil: Yes, but not completely.

Mr. Speaker: His point is that this settlement for the East Bengal refugees is not a popular one and that many have returned.

Shri Gadgil: So far as the information goes, about 50 families have returned.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Is it not a fact that large numbers.....

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Opium Factories

*2194. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what Government opium factories are working in the country?

(b) What area was under cultivation of opium in the year 1950-51?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The Government of India have opium factories at Ghazipur, Neemuch and Kotah.

Sir, I may add here that my Ministry is considering the question of closing down the factory at Kotah.

(b) The area under poppy cultivation during the year 1950-51 is 74,035 acres.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the yearly produce of opium?

Shri Tyagi: The annual yield of opium from these three factories that I have mentioned is 11,800 maunds..

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the amount that we export, and to what countries?

Shri Tyagi: We are exporting 320 tons of opium to foreign countries, mostly to America, 400 maunds to Pakistan last year, and about 400 maunds is being used for oral consumption in various States in India.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the reason why Government is considering to close down one of these factories?

Shri Tyagi: The policy of the Government is to give a dead stop to the production of opium—that part of opium which is used for oral consumption or non-medicinal purposes—by the year 1959. So, in accordance with that policy we want to close down this factory. It is producing only 800 maunds of opium of the quality known as biscuit opium. Its closing down is under consideration.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is export of opium not profitable?

Shri Tyagi: Mostly the opium which we export to outside countries is not used for non-medicinal purposes, it is used for medicinal purposes, and we are encouraging the production of that quality of opium.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know what medicinal compounds are manufactured in the opium factory at Ghazipur and whether they have any export markets?

Shri Tyagi: The Ghazipur factory is mostly producing what is known as excise opium and it is mostly given at cost price to the various States in India.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: Will the hon. Minister say whether the manufacture of opium will be stopped altogether in Kotah when the factory is closed?

Shri Tyagi: As I had already stated the question is under our consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PROHIBITION

*2195. **Shri Sonavane:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have requested the Bombay Government to file an appeal in the Supreme Court against the judgment of the Bombay High Court in a recent Prohibition case; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the appeal has been filed or when is it likely to be filed?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes; the Bombay Government have agreed to file an appeal in the Supreme Court.

(b) The appeal will be filed in the near future.

Shri Sonavane: May I know what were the primary reasons to prefer an appeal to the Supreme Court when the Bombay Government itself did not think it proper?

Major-General Himatsinhji: If I read the following statement, it will give full information and perhaps no more supplementary questions need be asked:

"In their recent judgment in what is known as the 'Prohibition Test Case', the Bombay High Court *Inter alia* declared as void Section 39 of the Bombay Prohibition Act, which exempted military personnel from the operation of the Act. The Centre had arrived at an agreement with the Government of Bombay for such an exemption. But the High Court held that Section 39 offended against Article 14 of the Constitution as it made a distinction between citizen and citizen. This created difficulties for the Armed Forces in view of their peculiar conditions of service. Legal opinion was accordingly ascertained and we were advised that there was a case for appeal. The matter was therefore considered by the Cabinet who decided that the Bombay Government should be requested to file an appeal It is understood that the records have been printed and are expected to be transmitted to the Supreme Court very soon when the appeal will be filed."

Shri Sonavane: Sir, I have to put some questions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No further questions.

Shri Sonavane: The original question is mine and I may be allowed to ask some supplementary questions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member should not persist in again raising the same point. Next question.

DOCUMENTARIES

*2196. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state separately for South India and North India on what subjects and how many documentaries were made in the years 1949 and 1950 and in what languages?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): The production of documentary films is planned according to subjects of all India interest. A list of documentaries produced in 1949 and 1950 showing the subjects and language versions is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 18.]

Shri Alexander: By examining the statement, I find that a very small number of subjects of interest are covered from South India. May I know whether the deficiency will be rectified by taking documentary films of cottage-industries, beauty spots and such places of interest?

Shri Diwakar: As I just pointed out, the subjects are not distinguished according to South India and North India but they are subjects of all India interest. I am sure there are many subjects from South India even if one should like to look at it from that point of view.

Shri Alexander: As an example, I said, I do not find a sufficient number of subjects of interest in South India. Am I to take it that there is a large number of places of interest?

Mr. Speaker: How does this arise? It is a question more or less of opinion.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know what is the method adopted in settling the subjects for the documentaries? Is there any Committee to advise on these subjects? If so, who are the members of the Committee?

Shri Diwakar: The subjects are chosen in consultation with all the Ministries.

Shri M. L. Gupta: May I know if the hon. Minister will take care to produce more films on agriculture and small scale industries this year?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the documentaries are taken by Government agency or by private parties?

Shri Diwakar: The documentaries of the Films Division are produced by the Government.

Shrimati Durgabai: Is it a fact that the Government have constituted a Committee to advise on these subjects? If so, my question is: Who are the Members of the Committee?

Shri Diwakar: There is what is called a Film Advisory Board.

IRRIGATION DAMS

*2197. **Shri Deogirikar:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation dams in the Union; and

(b) the number of such dams in States?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The number of existing dams in the Indian Union is 185.

(b) A statement showing the location of these dams State-wise is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 19.]

Shri Deogirikar: May I know, Sir, how many dams are proposed to be constructed in the Union and States in the near future?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The question, Sir, referred to the number of existing dams and that number I have given. I cannot say how many dams are to be constructed in the near future.

Shri Deogirikar: What was the percentage of irrigated land before partition and after partition?

Shri Sri Prakasa: This question does not arise out of this, Sir.

Shri Deogirikar: What is the acreage of the irrigated land in the whole country?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is too wide to be answered on this question.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the Planning Commission has fixed any priority in the construction of dams in the Union? If so, what are the dams?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I cannot say.

Shri T. N. Singh: Are Government aware that in a number of States several of the dams which were contemplated, are in a state of incomplete construction at present owing to financial difficulties? Do Government propose to take up at least such of the dams in the States which have been held up because of lack of funds and which otherwise would be a total loss?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I may say that because of financial difficulties some States have had to give up their plans about construction of dams. We at the Centre are not in a position at the present moment to take up those dams on their behalf. Our hands are already full with our own plans.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether these 185 dams have been constructed at the cost of the Central Government?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I cannot say that.

हिन्दी (शिक्षा का माध्यम)

*२१९९. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) किन किन केंद्रीय प्रशासित क्षेत्रों में गत वर्ष में अथवा इस वर्ष से शिक्षा का माध्यम हिन्दी भाषा घोशित कर दिया गया है तथा किन श्रेणियों अथवा कक्षाओं तक; तथा

(बी) क्या विभिन्न वाणिज्यिक तथा वैज्ञानिक महाविद्यालयों में हिन्दी का

प्रयोग शिक्षा के माध्यम के रुप में इस से पूर्व ही प्रचलित हो चुका है ?

HINDI (MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION)

[*2199. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) in which of the Centrally Administered Areas Hindi has been declared the medium of instruction during the last year or with effect from this year and up to which classes or standards: and

(b) whether Hindi has already been in use as the medium of instruction in the various Science and Commercial colleges?]

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 20.]

श्री जांगडे : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश में जो हिन्दी का माध्यम पहले से अनिवार्य रुप से प्रचलित था उसको अब आप्शनल क्यों कर दिय गया है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state why Hindi has been made an optional medium of instruction in Vindhya Pradesh where it was already the compulsory medium?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इंटरमीजियेट क्लासेज में ही उसको आप्शनल बनाया गया है। हाई स्कूल के बारे में तो ऐसा नहीं किया गया है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** It has been made optional only for Intermediate classes and not for High Schools.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि हिन्दी के अनेक विषयों के लिए जो पाठ्य क्रम की पुस्तकें दी गई हैं उन्हें सरकार ने स्टेंडर्ड मान लिया है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister please state whether the Hindi books prescribed in the syllabus as text books have been recognized by the Government as standard ones?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसके सम्बन्ध में तो इस वक़्त मेरे पास कोई इत्तला नहीं है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have no information in this connection at present.]

श्री जांगड़े : ऐसे कौन से क्षेत्र हैं जहां पर स्थानीय भाषाओं में शिक्षा का माध्यम रखा गया है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** What are those places where regional languages have been made the medium of instruction?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसके लिए भी मैं नोटिस चाहूंगा।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I would require notice for that also.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि ऐसी कौन सी शालायें हैं जहां अब भी अंग्रेजी का माध्यम अनिवार्य है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister please state which are the institutions where English is still the compulsory medium of instruction?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जहां तक मुझे पता है एंगलो इंडियन स्कूलों में अंग्रेजी का माध्यम अनिवार्य है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** As far as I know, English is the compulsory medium of instruction in Anglo-Indian Schools.]

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जहां जहां पर हिन्दी के माध्यम से शिक्षा दी जाती है वहां पर वैज्ञानिक शब्दों को क्या स्टेंडर्ड मान लिया गया है, और अगर नहीं माना गया है तो क्या इसके लिए कोई कोशिश की जा रही है?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** May I know whether the scientific terms have been accepted as standard at all places where Hindi is used as the medium of instruction, if not, whether efforts are being made for this purpose?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी हां, इसके लिए कोशिश तो हो रही है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Yes, Sir, efforts are being made.]

नार्मल प्रशिक्षण विद्यालय

*२२००. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) केन्द्रीय प्रशासित क्षेत्रों के वह स्थान, जहां प्राथमिक विद्यालयों के अध्यापकों के प्रशिक्षण के लिए नार्मल प्रशिक्षण विद्यालय खोले गये हैं; तथा

(बी) क्या इन विद्यालयों में बुनयादी शिक्षा भी दी जाती है ?

NORMAL TRAINING SCHOOLS

[*2200. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the places where normal training schools have been opened in the Centrally Administered Areas for the teachers of the primary schools; and

(b) whether basic training is also imparted in these schools?]

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 21.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि दिल्ली में ऐसी कितनी शालायें हैं जहां पर लड़कों को बुनियादी शिक्षा के आधार पर शिक्षा दी जाती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister please state how many schools are there in Delhi where education is imparted on Basic education system?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इनकी मेरे पास संख्या नहीं है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have not got these figures with me.]

श्री जांगड़े : बुनियादी शिक्षा के प्रचलित करने में सरकार ने कितना रुपया खर्च किया है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** How much money has been spent by the Government to encourage basic education?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसके भी आंकड़े मेरे पास नहीं हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have not got these figures also.]

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it the intention of Government to introduce basic training in all the Centrally Administered Areas?

Shri A. P. Jain: Government wants to encourage basic education in all the Centrally Administered Areas.

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपया बतलायेंगे कि कितने प्राइमरी स्कूलों के लिए एक नार्मल स्कूल खोला गया है ?

[**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say for how many primary schools, one normal school has been opened?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इसका नोटिस चाहिए।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I require notice.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि नार्मल स्कूलों में जो शिक्षा दी जाती है उसमें प्रौढ़ शिक्षा देना भी सिखाया जाता है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister please state whether training in adult education is also imparted in these normal training schools?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी नहीं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** No, Sir.]

PUNJAB PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

***2201. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Punjab Public Safety Act and the East Punjab Safety Act were extended to the Chief Commissioners' Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer and other Chief Commissioners' Provinces;

(b) for what periods these two enactments remained in force in each of the States;

(c) in which State the East Punjab Public Safety Act is still in force and the reasons justifying its further continuance;

(d) which of the areas were declared dangerously disturbed areas in the State of Ajmer during the year 1950 and for what period they remained such;

(e) which of the urban and rural areas are still dangerously disturbed

areas under the East Punjab Public Safety Act and since when; and

(f) the reasons justifying their declaration and continuance as such?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (c). The Punjab Public Safety Act, 1947, was extended to Delhi, Ajmer and Himachal Pradesh on 7th September, 1947, 31st December 1947 and 25th December 1948, respectively. On the replacement of this Act by the East Punjab Public Safety Act, 1949, the latter Act was extended to Delhi and Ajmer on 4th June, 1949, and to Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur on 29th June 1949 and 31st July 1949, respectively. It is still in force in these States. None of these Acts was extended to any of the other Chief Commissioners' States. It is necessary to have the powers under this Act available for the maintenance of law and order. Conditions have not yet settled down sufficiently.

(d) Areas within municipal limits of Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri and Deoli and Cantonment limits of Nasirabad and up to two miles beyond these limits were declared "dangerously disturbed" in September 1949 and remainded so until recently.

(e) None.

(f) Does not arise.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know since when the places named by the hon. Minister have ceased to be disturbed areas?

Shri Gadgil: Very recently.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether there have been any incidents in any of these areas during the last one year?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice for that. If there were no incidents, it was precisely because of the imposition of this Act.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know in which parts of Delhi State there have been any disturbances necessitating the imposition of this Act in recent months?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Was this Act extended to the Himachal Pradesh?

Shri Gadgil: It has been extended to Himachal Pradesh on 29th June 1949.

Thakur Krishna Singh: What are the reasons for extending this Act?

Shri Gadgil: The reasons are given in the answer. Because the conditions have not yet stabilised, it is necessary in the interest of law and order to extend this Act.

Thakur Krishna Singh: May I know the places where disturbances have taken place and the type of disturbances?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONERS

*2202. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Judicial Commissioners in each Part 'C' State and their scales of pay;

(b) the number of appeals against death sentence decided by each Judicial Commissioner's Court in 1950 and in how many appeals death sentences were confirmed; and

(c) what steps Government are bringing to raise the status of these Judicial Commissioners' Courts to that of the High Courts in Parts 'A' and 'B' States as regards their salaries, qualifications etc.?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil:) (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 22.]

(c) Government do not propose for the present to take any steps in the matter.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the approximate time taken for the decision of these murder appeals?

Shri Gadgil: I think it is reasonable time within which it is disposed of.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

*2203. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Secondary Schools for displaced persons in Displaced persons Colonies in the Province of Delhi;

(b) the number of teachers and pupils in each of these schools;

(c) the type of buildings and the type of furniture used in these schools; and

(d) the amount spent on such schools during the year 1949-50?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 23.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि इन शरणार्थी बस्तियों में हाई स्कूल कितने हैं ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister please state the number of High Schools in these displaced persons colonies?]

Mr. Speaker: I think this was also answered recently, about a fortnight before. A statement giving the number of schools etc. was laid on the Table.

श्री ए० पी० जैन : बारह हाई स्कूल हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** There are twelve High Schools.]

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether they are exclusively meant for displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: They are so situated that mostly they are used by displaced students.

SOCIAL CENTRES

*2204. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Social Centres in the rural and urban areas of Delhi; and

(b) the kinds of topics discussed therein?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) There are 87 Social Centres in the urban area and 170 in the rural area of Delhi State.

(b) The functions of these Centres are to enable the adults to read and write simple Hindi and then to help them to follow up with other books. The topics discussed in the Centres deal with all aspects of Social life like Health, Agriculture, Panchayat, Co-operation, Elections, Census, Museums etc.

Prof. Yashwant Rai: What was the amount spent on these Centres last year?

Shri A. P. Jain: Rs. 1,05,471 in 1950-51 (upto the end of December, 1950).

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether similar Centres have been opened in any other Centrally Administered Areas?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have no knowledge.

Shrimati Durgabai: What is the total number of women who have been so far trained by these Centres?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sex-wise tabulation is not available.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What is the number of persons who are benefited by this social education....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether Reading Rooms are attached to these Social Centres?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes. After concentrated training has been given, Reading Rooms are established at these Social Centres.

Rev. D'Souza: What is the proportion of voluntary workers who are employed in these Social Centres and may I know whether all of them are paid and are included in the sum given by the hon. Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: I should like to have notice of the question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Do these Social Centres get any subsidy? What is the constitution of these institutions; who directs and controls them?

Shri A. P. Jain: To begin with, an Educational Caravan comprising a fleet of four vans is sent to a village. After that, some reading and writing instructions are given and discussion on subjects like Health, Co-operation, civic duties, etc., take place. After the caravan has left the village, a squad of teachers is left behind to teach simple Hindi for one month.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the training given in the Centres has been recognised for the purpose of employment in the State?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is a very simple instruction for about a month or so, and in the urban area of about three months meant for illiterate adults only. Naturally this could not qualify them for any employment.

Mr. Speaker: The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXCISE DUTY ON TOBACCO

*2198. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of the recovery of excess excise duty on tobacoo reported in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) what steps Government are taking in the matter?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) Twelve cases were reported to the Government of India.

(b) The remedy is already provided in the Central Excise Rules, 1944, which authorizes payment of claims for refund of duty levied in excess of the correct duty, in consequence of 'inadvertance, error or misconstruction'. Further, Sections 35 and 36 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 (I of 1944), confer on assessees the right of appeal and revision application.

TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

*2205. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of technical and industrial schools in the Centrally Administered Areas;

(b) the number of private and Government managed schools;

(c) whether the certificates issued by such schools are recognised by the Department and Government or not;

(d) the number of schools (industrial and technical) opened by Government during the year 1949-50 to encourage technical education; and

(e) the amount spent on technical education during this period?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain:) (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 24.]

CONTRACTS WITH ENGLISH FIRMS

*2206. **Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a responsible officer of the Finance Department who was in England in June 1948 was instrumental in certain contracts being concluded with an English Firm and its associated concerns for the supply of second hand jeeps and large quantities of ammunition etc., costing over four crores of rupees?

(b) Is it a fact that the capital of the firm and associated concerns was only a few hundreds of pounds?

(c) Is it a fact that no satisfactory provision was made in the contracts for protecting Government against failure of the contractor to make the supplies?

(d) Is it a fact that the officer referred to above reported that he had satisfied himself that immediate supplies would be had and later, as Deputy High Commissioner at London, failed to terminate the contracts, even though no supplies could be had?

(e) What were the quantities ordered and how many under each item were actually received?

(f) Is it a fact that some jeeps which were supplied were all rejected by the Indian Army?

(g) Were any arrangements made to inspect the supplies before shipment?

(h) What amounts were paid to the Contractors and on what accounts and when?

(i) Have supplies come for the whole amount paid?

(j) Is it a fact that for failure of supply, the contracts had eventually to be cancelled and did the contractor then claim a huge compensation and whether the claim was considered valid by the legal advisers?

(k) Was any fresh contract given to the contractor to induce him to withdraw his claim to compensation?

(l) Has the Comptroller and Auditor-General submitted any report on these contracts and, if so, what action has been taken on the report?

(m) If the officers concerned in these contracts failed to take sufficient care in wording and executing these contracts, what action has been taken against them?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The answer is in the negative. A responsible officer of the Finance Ministry was associated in the preliminary discussion with the High Commissioner preceding the drawing up of the contract, but he was not instrumental in concluding it in the form in which it was finally entered into.

(b) Government have no information here as to whether the firm who undertook to supply jeeps were a firm of substantial means or not.

(c) No penalty was specified for failure to deliver within the time specified in the contract.

(d) No officer of the Finance Department reported that he had satisfied himself that immediate supplies would be had. The High Commissioner seems to have been advised by Counsel in London that the contract could not be treated as void on a proper interpretation of its terms.

(e) The quantity ordered was 2,000 jeeps and spares worth £20,000. 155 jeeps were received, but no spares.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes. The contract provided for inspection by another private firm before shipment from European port.

(h) The amount so far paid, exclusive of freight, has been stated by the High Commissioner to be £172,110. A clarification has been sought regarding further adjustments, if any. The exact dates when payments were made by the High Commissioner and on what account are not known here.

(i) No; but the firm had ready for delivery the necessary number of additional jeeps. These, however, could not be accepted until an agreement was reached on the standard of inspection we were prepared to accept.

(j) The contract has not yet been cancelled and the question of compensation has not arisen.

(k) Does not arise.

(l) The Comptroller and Auditor-General asked the Finance Ministry and the Defence Ministry for all particulars connected with this contract, and they have been furnished to him.

(m) The question of taking action against the officer or officers will only arise after Government is satisfied that sufficient care was not taken in the wording and in ensuring the enforcement of the contracts.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

*2207. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to provide educational facilities for the sons of displaced persons who have been or are being settled in those rural areas of Bhopal where there are no schools of any kind?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

PUBLIC MEETINGS IN DELHI

*2208. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to his answer to my supplementary question on the Short Notice Question asked by Ch. Ranbir Singh on the 23rd February 1951, and to state if any action was taken against the organisers or participants in any public meetings held in Delhi during the period, when no ban on such meetings existed?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): As there was no ban, the question of taking any action did not arise. But on November 21, 1950, January 25, 1951, and 5th and 6th of February 1951 riotous processions and demonstrations were held contrary to orders. These and certain other information that came to the knowledge of Government led to the re-imposition of the ban.

INSANITY AND BLINDNESS

*2209. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing percentage of insanity and blindness in the Centrally Administered Areas?

(b) What measures are being taken to check them?

(c) Where are they mostly prevalent?

(d) What are the causes that lead to these diseases?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No systematic survey of either the blind or the insane has been carried out and a large proportion of such cases do not necessarily attend hospitals and dispensaries. Exact figures are therefore not available.

(b) A statement giving the information required in respect of all Part 'C' States except Kutch and Andamans and Nicobar Islands is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 25.]

Information regarding the latter has been called for and will be furnished as soon as it becomes available.

(c) The incidence of the diseases is not confined to any particular region or State.

(d) The causes are generally:

In the case of blindness.—Malnutrition; Small-pox; Trachoma of granular lids; Accidents and Injuries; Cataract and Glaucoma; Venereal Diseases; Ill effects of bad postures; glare, bad lighting and badly printed books; irritant remedies.

In the case of Insanity.—Chronic Starvation or under-nutrition; Tropical fevers; Anaemia; Hereditary predisposition; Frequent child birth in women who are unfit for motherhood; Epilepsy; Use of Narcotic Drugs.

OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS

*2210. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the amount of Overseas Scholarships in respect of the schemes administered by the Ministry of Education available for 1950-51 and the provision for the year 1951-52?

(b) What are the countries in which and the subjects for which such Scholarships are tenable?

(c) How many Scholars are at present in receipt of Overseas Scholarships and in what countries?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Rs. 9,87,200 for 1950-51 and Rs. 4,28,000 for 1951-52 have been provided in the Education Ministry's budget for Overseas Scholarships.

(b) The Scholarships are tenable normally for studies in United States (including Canada), United Kingdom, Continent of Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

A list of subjects in which scholarships have been awarded is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 26.]

(c) 160 Scholars in the United Kingdom, 270 in the United States (including Canada) and 8 in Europe are in receipt of scholarships from the Central as well as State Governments concerned.

आयकर

*२२११. **श्री औंराब :** क्या वित्त मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) उन विदेशी तथा अन्य राज्यों की सार्थों से, जिनकी खानें तथा फ़ैक्टरियां तो बिहार में हैं किन्तु प्रधान कार्यालय कलकत्ता अथवा बम्बई में हैं, भारत सरकार को सन् १९४९ में आयकर के रुप में कितना रुपया प्राप्त हुआ ; तथा

(बी) इन सार्थों से प्राप्त आयकर का विस्थापित भाग भारत सरकार बिहार सरकार को देती है अथवा बंगाल तथा बम्बई सरकारों को ?

Income Tax

[*2211. **Shri Oraon:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of income-tax realised by the Government of India in the year 1949 from those foreign firms and firms of other States owning mines and factories in Bihar and having their head offices in Calcutta or Bombay; and

(b) whether Government allot the apportioned part of the income-tax realised from such firms to the Government of Bihar or to the Governments of Bengal or Bombay?]

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The information asked for is not readily available and its compilation would require such time and labour as will not be commensurate with the results likely to be gained thereby.

(b) The collections in specified areas are not allocated to specific States but 50 per cent. of the net proceeds of taxes on income are distributed among the States in accordance with a prescribed ratio.

Demolition of Houses in Kacha Damdama

*2212. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses built by displaced persons in Kacha Damdama that were demolished under orders of Government in the last week of January, 1951;

(b) the total number of people, including children, who were thus evicted;

(c) whether any alternative accommodation was provided for them, and if so, of what kind;

(d) how many of the evicted persons fell ill or died in the severe cold outside;

(e) whether any medical aid was provided; and

(f) whether Government propose to place a statement on the Table of the House giving the names of the heads of the families who resided in the demolished houses, the date of the construction of each house, and the date on which ration cards had been issued to each family?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Ninety-two unauthorised constructions were demolished.

(b) Information was sought from the heads of the families but was not made available.

(c) Tented accommodation was provided to such persons who wished to avail themselves of it.

(d) Government are not aware that any persons fell ill or died on account of demolition of huts.

(e) Yes.

(f) A list of names of the heads of families who resided in the demolished houses is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 27.]

The exact date of the construction of each house is not known but the houses were put up after August 1950. Information about the date on which ration cards had been issued to each family is not available.

Ayurvedic Directorates

*2213. **Shri D. S. Seth:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether Government have received any request from the Governing Body of the All India Ayurvedic Congress to set up Ayurvedic Directorate at the Centre?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) It is not considered necessary to set up an Ayurvedic Directorate at the Centre. The Pandit Committee has recommended that the proposed Research Centre for the indigenous systems of Medicine should have a suitably constituted Governing Body and Scientific Advisory Council and that these bodies should be consulted when necessary on matters relating to the indigenous systems. The matter is under consideration.

Home Guards

*2214. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether Home Guards were set up with the approval of the Government of India?

(b) What is the present policy of Government with respect to these organizations?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The approval of the Government of India is not required for the setting up of Home Guards by State Governments.

(b) The general policy is that wherever the interests of law and order require it such units may be constituted to function as auxiliary to the regular police. The assessment of the situation is necessarily left to the State Governments.

Naturalisation Certificates

*2215. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons, who have applied for Naturalisation Certificates since 26th January, 1950;

(b) the number of Certificates granted;

(c) the number of applications refused;

(d) the manner of disposal of applications; and

(e) the average time taken for disposal?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (e). An Indian Citizenship Law providing *inter alia* for acquisition of Indian citizenship by naturalisation is yet to be enacted in pursuance of Article 11 of the Constitution. The question does not therefore arise.

Coal Fields

134. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coalfields have been unearthed in McCluskieganj or in Chhota Nagpur; and

(b) whether any geological survey has been made in this area?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The coal-fields in Chhota Nagpur are confined to Hazaribagh District. These are as follows:

Bokaro Coal-field.
Ramgarh Coal-field.
Chope Coal-field.
Itkhori Coal-field.
Giridih Coal-field.
Karanpura Coal-field.

McCluskieganj is situated at the southern tip of the Karanpura coalfield, the existence of which has been known for about 50 years.

(b) Yes, Sir. A geological map of the area and a detailed account of the geology of the Karanpura coal-field is published in Memoirs, Geological Survery of India, Volume LII, Part I, 1925.

Criminal Procedure Code (Section 144)

135. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) for how many months during the year 1950 Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code and for what total period it remained in force in the City of Delhi, and in the towns of Ajmer and Beawar, and the reasons for the promulgation of the said Order; and

(b) in how many cases the order promulgated in these areas under Section 144, Criminal Procedure Code was defied and with what results?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information asked for is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 28.]

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Thursday, 15th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

*2216. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government referred the question of fixation of minimum wages for agricultural labour to the National Planning Commission sometime back?

(b) If so, has the National Planning Commission made any recommendations?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Planning Commission appointed an expert Committee for this purpose. The Committee recommended that the scope of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, as far as it is applicable to agricultural workers, should be restricted to areas of low wages where, firstly, action was most urgently called for and secondly, action had the maximum chances of being successful. Taking this into account the Commission recommended that option should be given to State Governments to introduce minimum wages for agricultural workers in such limited areas and at such times as they considered feasible.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What will happen to the employees engaged in the enquiry? Will they be disbanded?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Obviously, so.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the number of employees engaged?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It will be a few hundreds, 300 or 400.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether any date has been fixed for the fixation of minimum wages for agricultural labour?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No; according to the recommendation of the Planning Commission, no date has to be fixed. Option is to be given to the State Government to fix minimum wages for agricultural workers as and when they please.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, provided for fixation of minimum wages for labour in scheduled establishments, and if so in how many establishments and in how many States has this been given effect to so far?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There are two schedules in the Minimum Wages Act. In Schedule I, a number of industries are enumerated. Schedule II includes agriculture. So far as Schedule I is concerned, a number of State Governments have fixed minimum wages in a large number of industries in that schedule. Only a few days back, I think, in reply to a question, I have laid a Statement on the Table of the House wherein I have given the details of the various industries in which minimum wages have been fixed.

Shri A. C. Guha: Can the hon. Minister give us an idea as to what is the disparity between the general level of wages prevailing in industrial areas and in agricultural areas?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Obviously, the wages in agriculture are much lower than what they are in industry.

Shri Meeran: May I know whether the Planning Commission in their report has indicated at least by way of example any areas where agricultural labour is paid very low?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is not for the Planning Commission to indicate. An enquiry is being carried on in various States and we have received some material regarding the prevailing wages in those areas. The State Governments can say which are the most

depressed pockets where very low wages are paid to agricultural workers.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What do the enquiries indicate about the average annual income, and average expenditure for an agricultural labour's family?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The enquiry reveals a very bad state of affairs. The annual income of an agricultural family—I do not refer to individual workers, but families—comes to something between Rs. 300 and 400 per year. Therefore, the income is not enough to meet their ordinary expenses.

PENSION AND PROVIDENT FUND

*2217. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state at what stage the question of payment of pensions and Provident funds to displaced persons who came from Western Pakistan to India stands?

(b) How many representations have been received from various Associations and individuals in connection with this matter?

(c) How much amount has Government paid to the displaced persons in respect of their pensions as per their recent announcement?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The attention of the House is drawn to a statement made by me in answer to Starred Question No. 141 by Shri Sidhva on the 28th November, 1950, which gives the previous history of the case.

The position of the displaced persons other than employees of the divided Provinces of Punjab and Bengal with regard to pensions and provident funds is now as follows:

(i) Displaced Government servants to whom provisional pensions had been sanctioned under the December, 1947 Indo-Pakistan Agreement are continuing to receive this benefit.

(ii) Displaced Government servants and servants of States and Local Bodies not covered by the provisional pensions scheme of December, 1947 will now get the full amount of their pensions under the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of December, 1950.

(iii) Displaced Government servants and servants of States and Local Bodies who were eligible to pensions but whose pensions had not been sanctioned are entitled to payment of 50 per cent. of the pension subject to a maximum of Rs. 150 per mensem under the interim relief scheme sanctioned by the Ministry of Rehabilitation in November, 1950.

(iv) Displaced Government servants and servants of States and Local Bodies whose provident funds have not been paid will be eligible to payment of 50 per cent. of the ascertained dues under the Indo-Pakistan Provisional Payments scheme.

(v) Victims of Quetta earthquake who were in receipt of allowances in West Pakistan and dependents of the Government servants who died or were injured during the civil disturbances are entitled to payment under the interim relief scheme of the Ministry of Rehabilitation.

(b) A large number of representations were received but as the matter has now been satisfactorily solved, it will serve no useful purpose to ransack the numerous records.

(c) The Ministry has requested the Auditor-General to ask the Accountants General concerned to arrange payment against authorities issued by the Central Claims Organisation of the Ministry of Rehabilitation.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that 50 per cent. has been arranged to be paid provisionally towards the Provident Fund to employees of local bodies under the Agreement arrived at with Pakistan in December, 1950. May I know whether this amount will be paid by Pakistan Government, and what will be the position regarding the remaining 50 per cent? Has any agreement been arrived at or is likely to be arrived at?

Shri A. P. Jain: The main difficulty in implementing the Act was the difficulty about exchange. As a result of December, 1950, Agreement, it has been arranged that all settlements under the scheme will be in terms of Indian Rupees and final adjustments will be made later on. So far as the remaining 50 per cent. is concerned, nothing has been decided as yet. Ultimately, we hope to realise the money from Pakistan and pay to all persons concerned.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of answer to part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister said that he has referred the matter to the Accountants General for disposal. May I know how many applications have been received so far, and whether any money has been paid during the three months that have elapsed from the date of the announcement? Is it a fact that no partial payments of pension and provident fund have yet been paid?

Shri A. P. Jain: 2173 applications have been received. Out of these, 400 have been scrutinised by the officer in charge of the Claims Organisation. In ten cases payment has been sanctioned. The reason for the delay is this. First, the rules had to be framed. Then, forms were printed and they were sent to the displaced persons. Finally, these rules were finalised in the beginning of February. The Committee is scrutinising these applications. I hope payments will start by the end of this month or the first week of April.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी कृपा करके बतायेंगे कि इस पेंशन और प्राविडेंट फंड की मद में अदायगी के लिये आपके पास कितना रुपया है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the amount which is available with the Government for the payment on account of the items of pension and provident fund?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इनकी मद का कोई सवाल नहीं है। जिन जिनका रुपया वाजिब है, उनको जनरल एक्सचेंकर की तरफ से दिया जायगा।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The question in respect of these items does not arise. The amount which is due to these people will be paid from General Exchequer.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: Sir, are there yet any cases of displaced persons who claim pensions and provident fund amounts which have not been decided by Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: I said 2,173 applications have been received; some of these have been scrutinised and some have been sanctioned and others are being scrutinised and are in the process of being sanctioned. These are now under scrutiny.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Will Government sanction these claims after scrutiny irrespective as to whether the Pakistan Government agrees to pay the rest of the amount?

Shri A. P. Jain: The scheme that I have just read out to the House is for immediate implementation. Some sort of arrangement has been made with Pakistan for the implementation of the scheme. It does not depend on what Pakistan pays and what ultimately is settled with Pakistan.

Shri Chattopadhyay: So far, I understand there was some difficulty in the settlement of these pensions due to the non-availability of papers from Pakistan. May I know whether these papers have now been received from Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: The implication that there was difficulty due to the non-availability of papers from Pakistan is not correct. It is for the person who claims the pension to supply the papers. Of course they have to be verified and that is done. The previous clause has been removed and it is now for us to receive the papers and to finally assess the claims and make payment.

EVACUEE LAND IN PUNJAB

*2218. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of evacuee land in the Punjab (I);

(b) the percentage of the evacuee land which has been allotted to new allottees;

(c) the number of evacuee houses in the Punjab (I); and

(d) what percentage of those houses has been allotted to displaced persons from West Pakistan?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 39,79,000 acres.

(b) 98·9 per cent. in rural areas. 93 per cent. in urban areas.

(c) 4,83,909.

(d) 96·8 per cent. of the allotable houses in urban areas and 94·1 per cent. of the allotable houses in rural areas.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How soon do Government expect to get the remaining houses and land settled on these refugees?

Shri A. P. Jain: As regards the land, the balance is 31,044 acres both in the Punjab and in PEPSU. But the land is of inferior quality and we are prepared to give it to the displaced persons, provided they are prepared to take it. Unfortunately they have not shown any inclination to do that. So far as the houses are concerned, there is a balance of 3,595, out of these 2,396 are either in the possession of the old tenants or have been allotted to non-displaced persons who are government servants and who are eligible for allotment there. 1,199 still remain to be allotted and they will be allotted.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir what are the maximum and minimum acreage of land allotted to a single family?

(c) A similar ban on the export of cotton has been imposed in the East and the West Khandesh Districts, Districts of Kaiva, Panch Mahals, Baroda, Broach and Surat of the Bombay State, the Buldana Akola and Amraoti districts of Madhya Pradesh. No movement of Surat and Vijaya cottons grown in Bombay State, is allowed without the permission of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the permits are being issued by one central authority: and if so, by whom?

Shri Mahtab: By the Textile Commissioner.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know how many permits have been issued so far as the Punjab is concerned?

Shri Mahtab: I have not got the figures.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the basis on which the permits are issued? What are the considerations involved?

Shri Mahtab: According to the requirements of the mills concerned, the mills are allotted certain quotas of cotton. India has been divided into several zones, approximately coinciding with the cotton-growing areas and the approximate production of cotton is taken into account. Then allotment is made to the mills and permits are accordingly issued.

Shri Jnani Ram: What is the number of applications for permits that have been rejected?

Shri Mahtab: Applications of mills must have been rejected on the ground that the mills concerned have got sufficient stock. No mill is allowed to stock more cotton than is necessary.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: What is the total production of Bengal desi cotton?

Shri Mahtab: The estimate is about three lakh bales.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the restrictions on export also involve restrictions on movement from one Province to another or is free movement of *kapas* permitted from one zone to the mill area for which the zone is meant.

Shri Mahtab: The ban is imposed on movement from zone to zone.

Trade in Cloth with U. K.

***2222. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of trade in cloth between U.K. and India during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian export of cloth to U.K. has now increased and cloth imports from U.K. has decreased; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Exports of cloth have increased on account of rise in demand of cheaper coarse and medium cotton piecegoods in U.K. Imports have decreased because of restrictions imposed in the middle of 1949 on the import of cotton piecegoods.

STATEMENT

The volume of cloth trade between U.K. and India during the last three years.

Period	Exports to U.K.		Imports from U.K.	
	Quantity yards	Value Rs. (000)	Quantity yards	Value Rs.(000)
1948-49	3,237	4	37,242,692	7,75,59
1949-50	31,225,427	2,49,20	40,142,511	7,94,48
April to December 1950	48,845,024	3,90,51	2,262,595	51,36

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether there has been any general complaint in the U.K. about the quality of India's exports?

Shri Karmarkar: Not to my knowledge.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What steps have Government taken to prevent the re-export from U.K.?

Shri Karmarkar: We can take no steps whatever to prevent re-export from U.K. We have no power.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: According to the statement, during these three years the export has increased from 3,237 to 48 million yards. Are the Government satisfied that this export of cloth from India has not been very much at the cost of internal requirements?

Shri Karmarkar: It is always a question of priorities at particular times. My hon. friend knows that recently we have been stepping down the export of cloth in order to meet the internal requirements of the country. But at the time the cloth was allowed to be exported there was no question of dearth for internal consumption.

Shri M. L. Gupta: If it is a fact that cloth is being re-exported from U.K. to other countries, are we not losing the profit thereon, as we could have exported directly to the countries concerned?

Shri Karmarkar: I understand my hon. friend to ask me whether it is a fact that we are losing money on account of our exporting cloth to the U.K. and that they are re-exporting the same to some other countries to which we might have exported ourselves.

Shri M. L. Gupta: That is right.

Shri Karmarkar: The answer is I do not think so.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is not our present cloth scarcity also due to our increased cloth export to the U.K. and other countries, as stated by the Supply Minister?

Mr. Speaker: All aspects of this question have been discussed recently.

Shri T. N. Singh: What are the varieties of cloth which are exported to the U.K. and are they meant for local consumption or a large proportion of them is being re-exported?

Shri Karmarkar: I would like to have notice.

Shri Jnani Ram: Is the import confined to particular kinds of cloth at present?

Shri Karmarkar: It is only confined, so far as I can remember, to particular kinds of cloth and in fact, my hon. friend will see that we have almost reduced it to negligible quantities.

Dry Batteries

***2223. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state which are the factories manufacturing dry batteries in India?

(b) What percentage of Indian capital is invested in this industry?

(c) Are we manufacturing sufficient quantity to meet the internal demand?

(d) If not, what steps are being taken to encourage and help the production of dry batteries in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) (1) The Estrela Batteries Ltd., Bombay.

(2) The Solar Batteries and Flashlights Ltd., Bombay.

(3) The Sunbeam Electrical industries Ltd., Bombay.

(4) The National Carbon Company (I) Ltd., Bombay.

(b) Out of the four firms, the capital of three firms is entirely Indian and that of the fourth foreign. The total Indian capital invested is about Rs. 55 lakhs.

(c) No.

(d) This is a protected industry. The protective duty on imports is 30 per cent. *ad valorem*. Other forms of assistance in regard to procurement of raw materials etc., are also being rendered.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What was the capacity of production before the war and what is our capacity now?

Shri Mahtab: The installed capacity of these four plants is 213·5 million cells but the actual production is only 138·2 million cells.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the demand of radio batteries in 1951?

Shri Mahtab: At present the demand is 180 to 200 million cells.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the raw materials required for the manufacture of these dry batteries?

Shri Mahtab: Manganese dioxide, graphite, ammonium chloride, mercury chloride, zinc chloride, etc.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are we self-sufficient in these materials?

Shri Mahtab: No, Sir.

Shri Sidhva: For how many years has this industry been enjoying the protection of the State? May I know whether Government have taken any steps to see that their overhead charges are reduced so as to enable them to meet foreign competition?

Shri Mahtab: I have already said that our factories are not producing to the installed capacity in spite of protection but the gap is small. The requirement is about 180 to 200 million cells, whereas the production is 138 million cells. It is very difficult to know exactly why the production has not come up to the installed capacity. It is a matter which requires investigation. The hon. Member will find in the Tariff Commission Bill which has been placed before the House that steps are being taken to provide the machinery to investigate the reasons.

Shri Joachim Alva: What is the combined production of the three Indian factories as against the production of the foreign factory? What are the handicaps under which these three Indian factories are suffering as compared with the foreign factory?

Shri Mahtab: I have no figures factory wise. They are going to expand their production: that much I know.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if there is some export from our factories?

An Hon. Member: How is it possible when it is protected?

INDIA STORES DEPARTMENT

*2224. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state what is the annual maintenance cost of the India Store Department, London?

(b) What is the valuation of transactions done through them in the year 1949-50?

(c) What is the valuation of advantage that we received by transactions through them during the said year?

(d) When was this Store Department established in London?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The actual expenditure during 1949-50 was £278,893. Against this, the Department earned £484,083 during that year as departmental charges for services rendered by them.

(b) £22,110,900.

(c) Considerable financial advantage accrued to Government by transactions through the India Store Department, London, in the sphere of purchase, inspection and shipment of stores, but records are not maintained to show the amount of such financial advantage. Indeed it would be difficult to put a monetary value on these advantages except by way of the percentage levied as departmental charges.

(d) The India Store Department, London, was organised under the British Government in 1860.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know with what other countries are transactions carried on through this department in London?

Shri Gadgil: Apart from transactions in U.K., if orders are placed in Continental countries they too are transacted by these people.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are these transactions done on a tender basis or on an open market purchase basis?

Shri Gadgil: Mostly on tender basis. Tenders are invited from all over the world.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the relation of this Department with the Indian High Commissioner there?

Shri Gadgil: The Indian High Commissioner is the administrative head for purposes of discipline.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether the Audit Department of the Government of India has raised any serious objections with regard to the procedure of purchases in England?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice for that.

Sardar B. S. Man: Has the India Store Department been completely Indianised? If not, what is the number of Indian employees and what is the number of non-Indian employees?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice for that.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister said that our High Commissioner is the administrative head only for the purpose of discipline. May I know whether the High Commissioner is the head of the India Store Department or whether there is a separate head?

Shri Gadgil: The India Store Department is under the Ministry of Works, Production and Supply, but in as much as staff is there in London there must be somebody to enforce discipline. For that purpose the High Commissioner is the head.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know who determines these earnings and in what manner they are determined?

Shri Gadgil: They are examined, I think, by the audit officer with the Indian High Commissioner

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: In what manner are they examined, on what basis?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the valuation of the radio and aircraft equipment that we purchased through this Department in 1950?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

PARA-AMINOSALICYLIC ACID

*2225. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that two Indian firms will produce Para-aminosalicylic acid (P.A.S.) in collaboration with foreign firms?

(b) If so, have plants been installed?

(c) What will be the production capacity of each plant per year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Production capacity of the plants installed by M/s. Nivea Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and M/s Cilag Hind Ltd, is 12 and 40 tons per annum respectively.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any other firms have shown interest in the production of P. A. S. and, if so, how many will be granted permission to manufacture it in the near future?

Shri Mahtab: At the present moment the Government of India have granted permission to three Indian firms to manufacture P. A. S. in collaboration with foreign firms. No other firm has yet approached the Government. If any others approach, their cases will be considered on their merits.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the countries from which plants will be imported?

Shri Mahtab: Of the three firms which are now attempting to manufacture this article, one is collaborating with a U.K. firm, the second is collaborating with a Swiss firm and the third one with an Italian firm.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know by what time these firms are expected to go into production?

Shri Mahtab: So far as present information goes, in a year or two.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the annual requirements of this medicine in India and what percentage of our requirements will be supplied by these factories?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry I have not got the information here.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What will be the estimated production this year from Messrs. Nivea Pharmaceuticals Ltd.?

Shri Mahtab: The estimated production, as I have already stated in the reply, is 12 tons.

FOREIGNERS GOING TO NEPAL

*2226. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any passport or permission is required to be given by the Government of India to a foreigner for his passage through India to and from Nepal; and

(b) the number of foreigners who have gone to Nepal since the beginning of 1950 up till now?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Foreigners (excepting Citizens of Commonwealth Countries) proceeding to Nepal through India are required to obtain transit *visas* for Iindia and re-entry *visas* for India from Passport Authorities here before leaving India for Nepal.

(b) The number of such non-Asian foreigners is 76. The figures for Asians are not available.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the Government of India is bound by some agreement with the Government of Nepal, or by convention, to allow the passage of these foreigners to and from Nepal through India, or whether Government reserve the right of withholding their transit?

Dr. Keskar: The transit of foreigners through India to Nepal is certainly carried out according to agreements and treaties with the Nepal Government. This is so not only with regard to foreigners but also with regard to goods and commodities required by the Nepal Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Indians who want to go to Nepal require any passport and whether Nepalese wanting to come to India require any passport?

Dr. Keskar: Indians going to Nepal, up to this time, require a permit from the Nepal Government to go to Nepal, but I might inform my hon. friend that under the recent treaty that we have signed with Nepal, reciprocity rights for the citizens of both the countries are accepted, and very soon we hope that Indians going to Nepal will get the same facilities that Nepalese coming to India get.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know the name of the country from which the largest number of foreigners visited Nepal out of this figure of 76?

Dr. Keskar: I am afraid I would require notice for that question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that Nepal is not a member of the Commonwealth, may I know how the Commonwealth citizenship rule would apply to persons going to Nepal?

Dr. Keskar: I think my hon. friend has misunderstood my answer. Citizens of Commonwealth countries in passing through India do not require any *visa* for India. A citizen of the United Kingdom or of Canada coming to India has no need for possessing a *visa* but has to have only a valid passport. That is why he does not need a transit *visa* for going to Nepal through India.

Pandit Munishwar Dat Upadhyay: May I know whether the arrangement is an old one or there has been any change in it since 1947 or since the recent disturbances in Nepal?

Dr. Keskar: All the conventions with regard to the transit of foreigners through India are quite old. There has been no change. In fact, during the disturbances nobody was allowed to go to Nepal. That was all. But as I said, the convention with regard to Indians going to Nepal will, I hope, soon be changed and more reciprocity will be introduced.

Trade Representatives

***2227. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether our Trade Representatives abroad submit any report; and

(b) if so, whether these reports are available to the trading community and the public?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Such portions of the reports which are not confidential are published in the "Indian Trade Journal" and the "Foreign Market Review". The former is available to the public as a priced publication and the latter circulated to the Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the nature of duties which these representatives perform?

Mr. Speaker: It must be contained in the report, I believe

Shri Karmarkar: My hon. friend asks about the representatives abroad. They look after all our trade interests

Dr. M. M. Das: Do they gather particular information about foreign trade?

Shri Karmarkar: The Fortnightly Reports submitted by these representatives deal generally with trade prospects, trade enquiries in particular commodities, trade complaints, any important developments affecting trade, official organisation and other miscellaneous matters. The Monthly Reports deal with the general economic situation, foreign trade, trade enquiries and miscellaneous matters

Rayon Factories

***2228. Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the total amount of foreign exchange—soft and hard currency—utilised to date, for the import of machineries for the Rayon Factories, of Messrs. National Rayon Corporation Limited of Bombay and Messrs. Sirsilk, Limited of Hyderabad?

(b) What approximate amounts of foreign wood pulp (in rupees) will be required annually when the said factories begin production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The foreign exchange utilised to date by Messrs. National Rayon Corporation of Bombay amounts to $49,27,663 and by Messrs. Sirsilk of Hyderabad £12,70,936 and $3,66,460.

(b) Messrs. National Rayon Corporation will require wood pulp of the value of about Rs. 20 lakhs per annum. Messrs. Sirsilk will not use wood pulp but cotton linters as raw material for the process and this will be obtained from indigenous sources.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the annual production of artificial silk from these factories and whether the Government of India have got any control over the price fixation and distribution of the products?

Shri Mahtab: Production has not yet begun. So far as the National Rayon Corporation is concerned, it will go into production about the middle of this year. So far as the Sirsilk Co. of Hyderabad is concerned, it will go into production in 1952. The estimated production of the former is 5.6 million lbs. of yarn per annum and that of the latter is 5 tons of yarn per day.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government contemplate imposing any control over the price fixation and distribution of these products?

Shri Mahtab: When production begins, if the textile control still remains, necessarily there will be control over them.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the raw materials used in the National Rayon Corporation of Bombay are fully foreign and require a large amount of foreign exchange, may I know whether Government have impressed upon these rayon factories

the necessity for their securing their raw materials from indigenous sources?

Shri Mahtab: It is a very simple proposition. I do not think that the National Rayon Corporation will fail to secure its raw materials locally if it possibly can. This is being insisted upon not only with regard to this Corporation but with regard to all factories we have told them that as far as possible they should rely upon the supply of raw materials from indigenous sources.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Travancore Rayons Ltd. have gone into production?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry that that information is not available.

War Claims from Siam

***2229. Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether India received any compensation from Siam as war claims?

(b) If so, what was the amount she got?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The Governments of India, Australia and United Kingdom have agreed to accept the lump sum payment of £5,224,220 from the Government of Siam as compensation for war claims. The share of India amounts to about 1/50th of this figure. The payment has not been made so far.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know on what basis the claim of India was decided?

Dr. Keskar: I am afraid I will not be able to say off-hand the basis on which India's claim was decided, but generally speaking all these war claims were decided between the parties concerned on the basis of the contribution that the various countries had made to the war effort. If my hon friend requires details of India's case that was put up in regard to this particular matter, I will certainly furnish him with those details.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any special reason for the delay in the payment of the claim of India which has already been settled?

Dr. Keskar: This decision was taken only very recently. The dispute with regard to the different shares of the concerned countries and also the amount that Siam has to pay was going on for a pretty long time. It is only recently that this sum has been accepted by all concerned

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any proposal to adjust the amount against the payment to be made for the rice which we purchased from Siam?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice.

Shri T. N. Singh: Has it ever been suggested that for a small country like Siam this compensation is too much and that it should be waived or reduced considerably? If so, what steps did India take in the matter?

Dr. Keskar: I am not able to say. It is quite possible that during the negotiations that went on such representations were made on behalf of the Thailand Government. But I may inform the hon. Member that the Siam Government have accepted to pay this claim.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether any time-limit has been fixed within which Siam should pay this amount?

Dr. Keskar: As far as I am aware, there is no time-limit fixed, but as I said this decision was taken very recently and I do not foresee any difficulties in the adjustment of the payment.

Decasualisation Scheme

***2230. Shri T. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the factory owners of Delhi have opposed the Decasualisation Scheme of the Regional Employment Exchange?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Not exactly. Discussion has been going on between the officers of the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment and factory owners in Delhi about the introduction of a decasualisation scheme.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what is the specific objection of the millowners to this proposal of decasualisation?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The general objection of the employers to the decasualisation scheme is that their Sardars and Jobbers lose the opportunity of bringing in persons of their own choice for being recruited.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that in these very mills a number of persons who are called 'casual' labourers are in fact equal to a permanent labourer according to the length of service they have put in?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That is why a scheme of decasualisation is necessary.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether employers elsewhere have

opposed this sort of decasualisation scheme?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: In the first instance, wherever we tried to introduce a scheme like that there is some preliminary objection and opposition, but when the scheme starts functioning the employers gradually reconcile themselves to the idea and co-operate. They have been cooperating in important industrial centres like Bombay, Ahmedabad, Kanpur and places like that.

STALLS IN CALCUTTA

*2231. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stalls erected in Calcutta for displaced stall-holders;

(b) the number of such stalls occupied so far and the number now lying unoccupied;

(c) the total cost of constructing these stalls; and

(d) whether any tender was called for before placing the contract?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 384.

(b) 276 occupied and 108 unoccupied.

(c) Rs. 28,596.

(d) No.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government enquired why the remaining stalls are not being occupied?

Shri A. P. Jain: The last time I visited Calcutta I saw those stalls and I was told that the D.Ps. were not prepared to leave the better localities they were occupying to occupy these stalls.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have Government offered those stalls for some time at least without rent?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is now arguing or making suggestions.

लाला अचिंत राम: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि कलकत्ते में पुरुषार्थियों की जरूरियात का ख्याल रखते हुए गवर्नमेन्ट इस साल कितने नये स्टाल बनाने की तजवीज कर रही है?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of stalls which the Government keeping in view the requirements of the refugees are proposing to construct in Calcutta?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन: अभी तो यही खाली पड़े हुए हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Even these very stalls are lying vacant.]

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is usual to place the contracts without inviting tenders or has this been done specially in this case?

Shri A. P. Jain: That was a matter for the State Government to decide and it is such a small matter that it was not for me to interfere in all these things.

PAKISTAN SEPOYS IN EAST BENGAL

*2236. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in December, 1950, Pakistan sepoys in East Bengal along with some Pakistani Muslims seized a boat carrying 22 maunds of rice towards Karimganj?

(b) Is it a fact that some of the occupants were detained in custody?

(c) Have Government taken any steps in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Seven occupants of the boat were detained by the Pakistan police for a day after which they were released on bail.

(c) The case is still under investigation.

Shri Sidhva: Has the matter been referred to the Pakistan Government or is it a matter for local investigation?

Dr. Keskar: The matter is under local investigation and has also been referred to the Pakistan Government.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND

*2237. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there is any trade agreement between Finland and India?

(b) If so, for what commodities does this agreement provide export market for India in Finland?

(c) What commodities required by India are likely to be available from Finland?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Starred Question No. 1752 asked by Shri B. R. Bhagat on the 27th February, 1951 and my reply thereto.

For facility of recollection I shall read out the answer given to Starred Question No. 1752:

"India has not entered into a formal trade agreement with Finland but has arrived at a trade arrangement with that country for the year 1951 for promotion of direct trade between the two countries. No quantitative commitments have been made. Copies of trade letters exchanged to that effect have been placed in the Library of the House."

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What was the volume of trade between India and Finland in 1950?

Shri Karmarkar: The figures for 1949-50 are as follows:

Imports.—Rs. 1,17,00,000.

Exports.—Rs. 19,00,000.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this agreement for promotion of trade between India and Finland will be on a bilateral basis or some other basis?

Shri Karmarkar: An agreement of trade between two countries cannot be anything other than bilateral.

JUTE CONTROLLER

*2238. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the suit instituted by Shri K. C. Biswas in the Calcutta High Court against the Jute Controller (J. R. Walker) for having requisitioned jute goods due for shipment to U.S.A.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta High Court delivered judgment on 30th August, 1950 against the Jute Controller, holding his requisition order illegal and passed severe structures on his conduct as Jute Controller;

(c) the action Government propose to take against the Jute Controller in view of the judicial pronouncement against him; and

(d) whether Government propose to appoint any other person as Jute Controller?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, the judgment in question was passed on the 30th August 1950 and the hon. Judge made certain observations regarding the conduct of Mr. J. R. Walker as Jute Controller.

(c) The Jute Controller has been appointed by the States of West Bengal, Bihar, U.P. and Madras and the question of taking action against him, if any, rests primarily with the State Governments concerned.

(d) The Government of India are not aware whether any such proposal is being considered by the State Governments.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that the appeal filed by Mr. Walker against the judgment of the Calcutta High Court has also been dismissed?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware that an appeal had been filed and if so what had been decided in appeal.

Shri Kamath: It has been dismissed.

Mr. Speaker: That may be the hon. Member's information. The Minister has just stated that he has no information on the point.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that in this particular case Mr. Walker directed the sale of the goods to himself instead of under the Act?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a matter which has been exhaustively dealt with in the judgment of the High Court. His appointment has been by the State Governments concerned.

Shri Kamath: Did the State Governments consult the Central Government before appointing the Jute Controller?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. In this case we were consulted and we agreed to that appointment.

Shri Kamath: Have the State Governments reported to the Central Government the fact of this judgment against Mr. Walker?

Shri Karmarkar: The judgment has come to our notice.

Shri Kamath: Has the appellate judgment also come to the notice of Government?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said I am not aware that an appeal had been filed.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Has the Central Government, after this case, given any advice or directive to the State Governments?

Shri Karmarkar: In respect of this case?

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Yes.

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know, Sir, whether the Central Government has got no say in regard to the

appointment or removal of this officer and if so what are the reasons which prevented them from advising his removal now?

Shri Karmarkar: That officer does not exist now on account of decontrol. In respect of his appointment, we had a say, of course.

Shri Joachim Alva: Were any complaints received about Mr. Walker by the Union Government before the Indo-Pakistan Pact was arrived at?

Shri Karmarkar: I cannot say.

Shri Kamath: What position does he hold in the jute set up now?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Jute has been decontrolled. There is no proposal to have a Jute Controller.

COAL FOR SINDRI FERTILISER FACTORY

*2239. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the quality and quantity of coal which will annually be required for the Sindri Fertiliser Factory?

(b) What arrangement has been made for the supply of coal?

(c) Is it a fact that metallurgical coal is proposed to be used there instead of grade III coal, which the factory is capable of consuming?

(d) Is it also a fact that coal is proposed to be transported from far away places?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The quality of coal is run of mine coal grade II size 6" with a tolerance of 2" and ash content not exceeding 18·6 per cent. and the quantity 2,88,000 tons per annum approximately, when the factory is in full production.

(b) The present requirements of coal are 300 tons per day and necessary allocation has been made by the Coal Commissioner. Increased supplies to the extent necessary will be arranged as and when required.

(c) No, Sir, but metallurgical Coal will be used in the initial stages. Grade II coal will be used after a proved method is established in the factory. The factory has however been designed to work on grade II coal. Schemes are being investigated for the direct gasification of low grade coals with a view to reducing the drain on India's resources of high grade metallurgical coke.

(d) No, Sir. The idea is to bring coal for the factory from collieries situated within a few miles from Sindri.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Is it a fact, Sir, that the coal so far purchased by this factory has been transported from a long distance? May I know the collieries from which the coal has been purchased and the distance of the collieries?

Shri Gadgil: As I said, the arrangement is to purchase it from collieries which are not far away from the Factory.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the most convenient coalfields for the supply of coal to this factory, looking to quality required, availability of coal and the means of transport?

Shri Gadgil: That is covered by my reply to the original question.

Shri Jnani Ram: Will the factory require any quantity of washed coal?

Shri Gadgil: I am not an expert and so am not in a position to answer that question.

Shri R. L. Malviya: I have not got a reply to my question as to the coal which has already been supplied—what distance has it been transported?

Shri Gadgil: It is true that 1,15,000 tons of coal has been stocked in anticipation of production variation. As regards the source from which that is done, I would require notice.

GORAKHPUR LABOUR ORGANISATION

*2240. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gorakhpur labourers, the number of their camps and their strength campwise and industrywise throughout the country;

(b) the system of recruitment of labour at Gorakhpur, collection and disbursement of their wages and arrangement for their boarding and lodging;

(c) the annual total cost of the administration of the Gorakhpur Labour Organisation throughout the country, and the cost per head;

(d) the contribution of the employers towards the cost of administration, if any;

(e) the scale of wages industrywise with special reference to coal industry;

(f) whether the wages to Gorakhpur labour were allowed according to various awards or was any different system adopted and if so, what it was; and

(g) the total unclaimed amounts of wages lying with the organisation?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 30.]

(c) The total annual cost of the administration of the Gorakhpur Labour Organisation is about Rs. 3·5 lakhs and the average cost per head works out to Rs. 40 p.a. approximately.

(d) The entire cost of the administration is met by contribution from the employers.

(e) and (f). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 31.]

(g) Rs. 9,733/4/10.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Is it a fact, Sir, that no trade unions exist in any of these Gorakhpur labour camps?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: These workers are recruited for a period of eleven months and it is doubtful if trade union activities will do any good to them or to the trade unions themselves.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Despite the fact that they are recruited for eleven months, is it not a fact that they come repeatedly and work for years together—for five, or six or even ten years?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: When they come again, there is no difficulty in getting themselves as members of trade unions. It is for the trade union workers to approach them and enrol them.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Is it a fact that these Gorakhpur labourers are kept in camps which are surrounded by walls or wires and they are not allowed to go out? The camps have one or two gates at the most which are guarded by chowkidars?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is not a fact, Sir. They, of course, are given sheltered accommodation, but they are allowed to go out. If the trade union workers want to work among them, I don't think there is any difficulty there.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

SCAVENGERS STRIKE IN KUTCH

Prof. K. T. Shah: (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the State of Kutch, there is going on a strike of scavengers (*Bhangis*) in the principal towns of that State, and, if so, what is the number of scavengers concerned, and of the population affected, by the strike?

(b) Since when has this strike started, how long has it been in duration, and how long ago was it notified?

(c) What are the demands of the strikers, and how have the authorities in Kutch dealt with those demands?

(d) Has any Order declaring the strike to be an Essential Service, been issued in the State, and what has been the consequence of that Order, in regard to the strikers?

(e) Have the Kutch authorities, or the Central Government, made any suggestions to deal with the strikers' demands?

(g) Have any arrests been made, or detention orders issued, with regard to persons involved in this strike, because of their part in the strike?

(f) Will Government be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House, giving comparative wages and dearness and other allowances to scavengers in the leading towns of the several Part 'C' States?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (c). The Municipal sweepers in the towns of Bhuj, Mandvi, Mundra and Anjar in Kutch have gone on strike since 17th February 1951. The total number of sweepers concerned is 206 and the population of the towns affected by the strike is about 90,000. The only demand of the strikers is that the increased dearness allowance, which has been sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner from the 1st January, 1951, should be paid to them with retrospective effect from 1st April, 1950. The Chief Commissioner does not consider that this demand is justified and has employed temporary sweepers to keep the towns clean. The Kutch Advisory Council and the public have no sympathy with the strikers and are actively co-operating with the Government in running the essential services and maintaining the health of these towns.

(d) The Government of India have declared the Municipal sweepers in Kutch as an Essential Service in terms of the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance, 1941 and have authorised the Chief Commissioner to issue directions under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Ordinance in respect of persons employed as Municipal sweepers in Kutch. The Chief Commissioner has asked the sweepers not to leave Municipal employment or absent themselves from work. The leaders of the sweepers have been warned that unless they withdraw the strike, action under the Ordinance would be taken against them. The strikers have disobeyed the Chief Commissioner's orders and have been obstructing Government and the

temporary sweepers employed by Government in their work.

(e) The Kutch authorities and the Government of India consider that the strike is unjustified.

(f) No arrests have been made or detention orders issued for illegal strike. 10 persons were arrested for wrongfully obstructing the cleaning work by temporary employees and volunteers. One of the persons arrested is a worker by name Pravin Shah who was arrested on 5th March, 1951. Pravin Shah and 8 others have been released on bail and only one sweeper is in custody pending trial.

(g) The information is not readily available.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I ask if these strikers have gone on strike individually by themselves or is there any union of theirs and it is the union which has declared and continued the strike?

Shri Gopalaswami: The only information I have is that they were induced to go on strike by a person who belongs to a well known party in the country.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire whether the salaries in the State for other public services were brought into line with the salaries of similar offices under the Central Government or the Chief Commissioners' Provinces and, if so, from what date?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid that does not arise out of this question which is confined to sweepers.

Prof. K. T. Shah: The last part of my question enquired about the corresponding salaries in other Chief Commssioners' Provinces and I was told that no information was easily available. Since the State merged and was taken over by the Central Government in August, 1948 can I know whether the salaries of other public servants have been brought into line with those under the Central Government and, if so, from what date? Can I not get that information?

Shri Gopalaswami: There must have been a certain amount of readjustment of salaries, but for giving an accurate answer research is necessary.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I know if any attempt has been made at mediation at all or is this reliance placed on declaring them as an Essential Service and regarding the strikers against that Essential Service to be offenders against the law?

Shri Gopalaswami: There can be no question of mediation when both the Local Government and the Government of India consider that this strike was thoroughly unjustified. The public and the Advisory Council of the place hold the same view. And it would perhaps interest the hon. Member to know that the local Congress Committee has furnished volunteers to assist the administration in keeping the towns clean.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know the minimum salary and other allowances given to sweepers in Kutch State and what is the amount asked for now as increased?

Shri Gopalaswami: The pay ranges from Rs. 6 to Rs. 18. Rs. 14 dearness allowance was sanctioned for people getting more than Rs. 6 but less than Rs. 12, and Rs. 21 dearness allowance was sanctioned for persons getting more than Rs. 12 up to Rs. 18.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether these striking sweepers belong to the scheduled castes and, if so, whether any other community is not coming forward to do this job?

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe volunteers are not confined to the *Bhangi* class at all. They come from all ranks of society.

Shri Sonavane: But will this arrangement continue.....

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I with your permission substitute the past tense for the present in my Short Notice Question?

Mr. Speaker: He may do so.

VISIT TO DELHI OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Shri Kamath: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Secretary of State of the United States of America was recently in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that meetings were arranged between him and representatives of Government;

(c) the nature and scope of the talks that took place; and

(d) whether any communication has been received from the Government of the United States of America in regard to the Food Aid proposals now before Congress?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The Assistant Secretary of State of the United States of America spent two or three days in Delhi on his way back from Colombo to America. In the course of his stay, he met some Ministers and officials of the Government of India. Such meetings normally take place when distinguished members or officials of foreign Governments pass through Delhi. These meetings were routine and informal meetings and no particular subjects were laid down for discussion.

(d) No communication has been received recently from the Government of the United States of America in regard to the food proposals now before Congress.

Shri Kamath: What on our side was the genesis of these food aid proposals before the American Congress? Was there any request from Government for this aid, and if so.....

Mr. Speaker: He is much beyond the scope of the question. The question is with reference to the visit of the Assistant Secretary and the talks he had. Therefore all the food negotiations, if there be any at all with the U.S. Government, cannot come in here.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in the press report that the Prime Minister told Mr. Norman Cousins, an American publicist who was recently here that he welcomed the suggestions made in the American Congress that a large quantity of wheat will be coming and we shall look forward to it?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid, I have to pass the same remarks. He is indirectly trying to enter into the food situation. It has nothing to do with the visit.

Shri Kamath: I will ask the last question because I think it will arise out of part (d) of the question. So far as this communication from the U.S. Government is concerned, is there any truth in the press reports that the Prime Minister mooted this subject first when he was last in America 18 months ago?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COFFEE

*2232. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total production in the main varieties of coffee seeds in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and also the corresponding figures of home consumption?

(b) Is it a fact that the recent rise in price of coffee is due to export against the advice of the Coffee Board?

(c) What is the increase in acreage of coffee plantation in 1949 and 1950 compared to the two previous years?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) 1948-49.—2,195 acres.
1949-50.—3,569 acres.

STATEMENT

Production (The coffee crop year is from the 1st July of one year to the 30th June of the next year.)

Crop year	Arabica	Robusta	Total
1947-48	6,970 tons	8,830 tons	15,800 tons
1948-49	18,830 ,,	3,470 ,,	22,300 ,,
1949-50	12,654 ,,	7,707 ,,	20,361 ,, (Estimates only)

Consumption (for calendar years) The coffee crop of 1947-48 is ordinarily released from January, 1948 and so on.

Year	Arabica	Robusta	Total
1948	8,191 tons	8,517 tons	16,708 tons
1949	13,803 ,,	3,753 ,,	17,556 ,,
1950	11,392 ,,	5,866 ,,	17,258 ,,

COTTAGE INDUSTRY PRODUCTS

*2233. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of marketing organisations started by Government for sale of cottage industry products; and

(b) the amount of subsidy which each State is giving for developing cottage industries by displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) It is not the policy of the Ministry generally to set up separate marketing organizations. In Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bombay and some other States, marketing of the articles produced by displaced persons is done through the Marketing Organisations of the States. In Delhi, however, one

refugee handicraft shop has been set up for the sale of products of Women's Centres and of Co-operative Societies of displaced persons.

(b) Government is directly undertaking the organisation of Home and Cottage Industries and no independent organisations are being subsidized.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*2234. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of additional houses constructed by Government for displaced persons during the year 1950; and

(b) the loans given for the construction of houses?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 42,006 houses have been constructed by Government during the year 1950.

(b) Rs. 2,29,63,431.

NON-FERROUS METALS FOR COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

*2235. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether some time back the Tariff Board recommended release of non-ferrous metals for Cottage Industry at concession rates;

(b) if so, what action was taken to implement this recommendation;

(c) if any release were made for Cottage Industries, what steps were taken to ensure that the materials were properly utilised by the Cottage Industry;

(d) whether it is a fact that complaints have been received by Government against the nature of distribution of these metals;

(e) if so, what investigations have been made by Government; and

(f) what was the result of such investigations?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The recommendation of the Tariff Board was accepted and after ascertaining the requirements of the various Cottage Industry units in consultation with the associations representing non-ferrous trade and industry and the local Directors of Industries, releases of non-ferrous metals in ingots and scrap were made at concessional rates.

(c) Specific instructions were issued to the Directors of Industries to keep a close watch over the allottees. Copies of these instructions were also issued to the District Magistrates concerned.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). The main complaint was that the allottees had sold part of the quotas allotted to them at prices higher than those at which the material was released. Since the bulk of the allocation was made to Uttar Pradesh, the State Government was requested to investigate into these allegations. The report made by the State Government is being considered.

COAL TO PAKISTAN

*2241. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the quantity of coal and derivatives of coal exported to Pakistan in 1950-51?

(b) What is the price per maund?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The following quantities were exported to Pakistan during 1950-51, (up to 15th February 1951):

Coal.—16,950 tons.

Coal Tar.—1,807 tons.

Coal Tar Paint.—7,420 tons.

(b) Coal.—From Re. 1/4/9 to Re. 1/7/9 per maund pit-head.

Coal Tar.—Rs. 8/8/- per maund.

Coal Tar Paint.—Rs. 8 per maund.

INDIAN ESTATE WORKERS IN CEYLON (VOTING RIGHTS)

*2242. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian Estate workers in Ceylon have lost voting rights;

(b) if so, how many of them have been deprived of franchise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the names of the Indian plantation workers in Ceylon were expunged from the Voters' list; and

(d) if so, whether it is the intention of the Government of India to move the Government of Ceylon in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The exact number is not known though it is likely to be quite considerable.

(c) The names of such Indian plantation workers as have not been admitted to Ceylon Citizenship have been expunged from the Voters' list.

(d) No useful purpose will be served by taking up this question as the right of a Government to include only citizens as voters is obvious.

ENEMY FIRMS IN INDIA

*2243. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries whose firms are treated as Enemy Firms in India;

(b) whether Government have recently vested the property of the Enemy Firms in a Custodian of Enemy Property; and

(c) if so, what are the capital assets and liabilities of these Enemy Firms in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) German, Italian and Japanese firms are treated as enemy firms in India.

(b) The assets of the enemy countries were vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property under the Defence of India Rules on the commencement of war with each country.

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

STATEMENT

The assets and liabilities of the enemy firms vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property.

	Assets (Rs. 000)	Liabilities (Rs. 000)
(i) German enemy firms	2,28,64	20,97
(ii) Italian enemy firms	15,76	15,88
(iii) Japanese enemy firms	2,73,64	2,24,17

No separate figures are available regarding the capital assets of the firms.

ARREST OF SWAMI JNANANANDA IN DACCA

*2244. **Shri S. M. Ghose:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that Swami Jnanananda, an Indian citizen and resident of Behala, district 24 Parganas, West Bengal has been arrested while he was at Dacca to attend a school committee meeting and kept in custody at the Dacca Central Jail, East Pakistan?

(b) If so, have Government taken any step to secure his release and return to India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca has been in correspondence with the Government of East Bengal for Swami Jnanananda's release.

GOVERNMENT PRESSES

*2245. **Shri Deogirikar:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the total amount of work in rupees ordered by the Central Government and executed by private presses during the year 1950?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil) Rs. 21,63,638/12/5.

ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO HONGKONG

*2246. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) what restrictions were imposed by the British Government on the entry of Indians into Hongkong during the last war;

(b) whether those restrictions still exist; and

(c) whether efforts have been made by Government in recent times for the removal of those restrictions and if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) No Indian civilian could enter Hongkong during or after the last war without the prior consent of the Military and Civil Administration of the Colony.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. But, as similar restrictions have been imposed by the Government of Hongkong on all aliens, the Government of India have dropped the matter for the time being.

IMPORT OF BOOKS

*2247. **Shri Shiv Charan Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many books were imported into India in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and what was their value?

(b) How many books were exported from India in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and what was their value?

(c) If the value of imports was greater than the value of exports, is it due to copyright of England applying to India even now?

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

*2256. **Shri S. M. Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether any preference is being given to the East Bengal displaced persons (i) in respect of employment, contracts and stall licences in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, and (ii) in respect of recruitment to services under the Damodar Valley Corporation?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (i) In Chittaranjan Locomotive Workshop other things being equal, preference is given to East Bengal displaced persons in the matter of employment and stall licenses. As regards work contracts, the public tender system is in vogue but here too, due consideration is given to the claims of displaced persons for ancillary works like Dairy farming etc.

(ii) Other things being equal, preference is given to East Bengal displaced persons in the matter of recruitment to services under the Damodar Valley Corporation.

साबुन उद्योग

*२२५७ श्री आर० ऐस० तिवारी : (क) वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या भारत में साबुन इतनी मात्रा में बनाया जा रहा है कि उस की विदेश से आयात करने की आवश्यकता न रहे ?

(ख) सरकार इस उद्योग को क्या सहायता दे रही है ?

SOAP INDUSTRY

[*2257. **Shri R. S. Tewari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether soap is being manufactured in India in such quantities as to obviate the need for its import from abroad?

(b) What help are Government giving to this industry?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) India is self-sufficient in so far as her requirements of soaps are concerned except that small quantities of special types of soaps, such as dental and medicated soaps have to be imported from abroad.

(b) Government are assisting the industry in procuring raw materials and chemicals, and also in importing modern machinery and equipment.

RUBBER PLANTS

*2258. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India purchased at a cost of Rs. 30,00,000/- each, two Plants for reclaiming rubber from old tyres by the thermal process and placed them at the disposal of tyre manufacturers in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that these Plants have since been discarded by them and sold as Scrap by Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to purchase the same Plants again from those to whom it was sold as Scrap;

(d) the prices for which these Plants were sold and the names of the persons who purchased them; and

(e) the name and designation of the officer who ordered the disposal?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The Government of India purchased in 1943-44 two Plants for reclaiming rubber from old tyres by the thermal process, one at a cost of Rs. 9 lakhs approximately and the other at Rs. 8·31 lakhs approximately and placed them at the disposal of Dunlop Rubber Co. of India Ltd., Calcutta, and Firestone Rubber Co. of India Ltd., Bombay respectively.

The cost included the cost of the building and fixtures which the firms had to erect for installing the Plants.

(b) and (d). As these Plants were no longer required by the Government, one Plant was sold to Dunlop Rubber Co. of India Ltd., who had the first option on the Plant, at a negotiated price of Rs. 3 lakhs, after termination of the contract. As regards the other Plant, Firestone Rubber Co. of India Ltd., Bombay, who had also the first option on the Plant, did not want the entire Plant. This Plant will be sold in the best interests of the State.

(c) No, Sir.

(e) The sale of the Plant to Dunlop Rubber Co. of India Ltd., Calcutta was made by the Government of India.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF INDIAN RUBBER

*2259. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that rubber growers and manufacturers arrived at an agreed increase in the price of Indian rubber fixing it at Rs. 100/- per hundred pounds and reported their agreement to the Government of India in September, 1950;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government refused to consider the agreed increase in prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Price Advisory Committee, to whom this question was referred during 1951, met on 20th February, 1951 in Bombay and reported to Government the same day that the growers and manufacturers would not agree on an increase of Rs. 32/- per hundred pounds; and

(d) whether Government are awaiting the Report of the Tariff Board Inquiry into rubber costs for implementing even the *ad interim* increase of Rs. 32/- per hundred pounds decided upon on 7th January, 1951 at Madras?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir, it is a fact.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Committee could not come to any agreed conclusion. In the record minutes there was no mention of any increase of Rs. 32 per 100 lbs.

(d) No, Sir. Increased prices have been notified on the 7th March, 1951.

INDIAN RUBBER

*2260. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rubber was placed on O.G.L. at about the same time when the price of Indian rubber was fixed at Rs. 90/- per 100 lbs.;

(b) whether it is a fact that about 7,000 tons of rubber were purchased from Overseas markets, at prices averaging Rs. 1,445/- per ton as against Rs. 1,837/- per ton of Indian rubber during the year 1948-49; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government took no action upon the representations of rubber growers during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 that the manufacturers were not lifting rubber stocks and were resorting to selective buying?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. About 7,000 tons of rubber was imported during 1948-49 at prices below the Indian controlled prices.

(c) No, Sir. Every time there was a complaint regarding accumulation of stocks, Government interfered and took suitable action.

PLANNING COMMISSION

(MR. A. D. GORWALA)

*2261. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has invited Mr. A. D. Gorwala to undertake on its behalf a study of public administration both in the Government of India and in the States; and

(b) if so, when Mr. A. D. Gorwala is expected to complete the enquiry in order to place it before the Planning Commission?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes. Mr. Gorwala has been invited to suggest measures for improvement in public administration from the point of view of implementation of development programmes.

(b) In two or three months.

CONSUL-GENERAL FOR INDIA IN DENMARK

136. **Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Consul-General for India in Denmark is a Danish citizen; and

(b) the reasons for appointing a foreigner to such a post?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). Mr. Victor B. Strand, a Danish citizen, has been appointed as Honorary Consul-General for India in Copenhagan. The development of trade between India and Denmark was being hampered by the absence of a trade officer in Copenhagan. No suitable Indian was available in Copenhagan for appointment as an Honorary Consul General; and the likely amount of work there would not have justified the expense of posting an Indian officer there for the purpose.

Mr. Strand is a leading Danish business man and Vice-Chairman of the Indo-Danish Society. Apart from this, he has always been helpful to Indian students and visitors to Denmark. It is a prevalent diplomatic usage to utilise where necessary the services of friendly businessmen as honorary Consuls.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 16th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD GRAINS FOR KASHMIR

*2262. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kashmir had made a request sometime back to the Union Government for the supply of food grains; and

(b) if so, the nature of the demand made, and the amount agreed to be given?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The Jammu and Kashmir Government asked for an allotment of 40,000 tons of foodgrains for the year 1951. The Government of India have decided to allot them 20,000 tons under the basic plan.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, when the request was made and whether any quantity has already been offered to them?

Shri Gopalaswami: I said that 20,000 tons have been allotted to them.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How much of it has already gone to them?

Shri Gopalaswami: Two thousand tons of wheat were expected to be moved to Kashmir during February. I do not know if that quantity has reached there. Further allocations will be made this month.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, whether Government have any

idea of the total shortage of foodgrains from which Kashmir suffers at the present moment?

Shri Gopalaswami: The Kashmir Government itself asked for 40,000 tons.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether Government is giving food-grains to Kashmir at a concessional rate?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think they get the food-grains on the same terms as the other States.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Why does the Central Government not treat Kashmir, in the matter of food subsidy, as the other States of India?

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly the question to which he gave a reply just now.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the food-grains are supplied on a cash or credit system?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think the value of food-grains is added to the total liability of Kashmir.

MANUFACTURE OF RAILWAY SALOONS

*2263. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many saloons were manufactured by the Railway during the year 1950?

(b) what is the position of the existing saloons?

(c) Are they in use, and if so, how many?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No new saloons have been constructed during the year 1950.

(b) and (c). The total number of BG and MG bogie inspection carriages is 144 and of the 4 and 6-wheeled carriages is 496; out of which it is proposed to convert 3 BG and 2 MG bogie inspection carriages into suitable carriages for public use. All the

inspection carriages are in use by Railway Officers having touring duties.

Shri Sidhva: What is the lowest rank of officer who is entitled to the use of the saloon? May I also know what is the maintenance cost of these 4 and 6-wheeled saloons?

Shri Santhanam: All officers above the rank of District officers, who have got touring duties, are entitled to these saloons. I am not able to give the maintenance cost of each; it depends upon the particular carriage.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that out of the 496 carriages, five are going to be converted into suitable carriages for public use. May I know whether there is any difficulty in converting the entire lot for public use, after providing for the use of officers where absolutely necessary?

Shri Santhanam: Except the five inspection carriages, which are proposed to be converted all the others are absolutely necessary for the use of the officers.

RAILWAY CENTRAL STANDARDS OFFICE

*2264. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what researches were carried out at the research branch of the Railway Central Standards office during 1950; and

(b) how many of them were put to use?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Work was carried out on many items of research by the Central Standards Office for Railways during 1950, and a list showing some of the results achieved and put to practical use is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 33].

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, how many experts are employed in the work of research in that office and also whether there is any foreign expert in service?

Shri Santhanam: There is no foreign expert. They are all Indian railway officers employed in the Standards Office.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How many officers are employed in the Standards Office?

Shri Santhanam: I should like to have notice of that question.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, what was the amount spent over it during last year?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice of that too. This question only related to the research work carried on in the Standards Office.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact, Sir, that almost all these officers are on temporary appointment and not employed on a permanent basis?

Shri Santhanam: Does the hon. Member mean that they have no substantive jobs?

Prof. Ranga: They may have substantive jobs in their respective railways. But is it not a fact that none of them has been recruited specially for this work on a permanent basis to concentrate on research alone, and not run the risk of having to go back to their railways?

Shri Santhanam: Certain officers of some railways are selected and they maintain their lien on substantive jobs while working in the Standards Office. I am not able to make out what the hon. Member wants.

Mr. Speaker: The point seems to be whether this cadre of officers for research is recruited in view of their special qualifications for research.

Shri Santhanam: They are generally selected from the existing officers owing to their special aptitude.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many standardisation committees are attached to the Central Standards Office?

Shri Santhanam: There are a considerable number of committees; but I would like to have notice of that question to give the exact number.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any metallurgist in that office?

Shri Santhanam: I have no information.

AMERICAN DELEGATION OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS

*2265. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American delegation consisting of Agricultural experts visited India in March 1950; and

(b) if so, the purpose of their visit?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) To discuss plans by which the U.S. Government could give technical aid for agricultural improvement.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether they came at the invitation of the Government of India, or were sent by the U.S. Government?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They were deputed by the U.S. Government under Public Law 402 which was later merged into Point Four Programme.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What specific purpose has this delegation served?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They came with the primary objective of ascertaining the nature of technical cooperation in the field of agriculture that could be extended to India under Point Four Programme.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: I referred to the purpose already served, not the purpose for which they came.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Three of them are now working in India and if the hon. Member wants further information I can give the work done by them.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: I would like to know the results of their work.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Dr. Rambo, an Agricultural Implements Expert is attached to the Central Tractor Organisation. He has organised a training school for tractor technicians;

Mr. Ford Milam, Agronomist, is attached to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; and

Mr. Horace C. Holmes, Extension Service Expert, is attached to the Ministry.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What are their salaries, Sir?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Their salaries are met by the United States Government.

ADVISORY COUNCILS IN PART 'C' STATES

*2266. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state in which of the Part C States the Advisory Councils have been set up?

(b) What are the functions and powers of such Advisory Councils and since when are they existing in various Part C States, and what has been the experience of their working so far in various States?

(c) Have the Government of India issued any instructions in writing to the Chief Commissioners in Part C States defining the duties, powers and functions of these Advisory Councils?

(d) If so, do Government propose to place a copy of the letter incorporating such instructions on the Table of the House?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (d). Out of the seven Part C States under the control of the Ministry of States, Advisory Councils have been set up in Himachal Pradesh, Kutch and Manipur. The dates from which they are functioning are:

Himachal Pradesh—30th September 1948.

Kutch—1st November 1948.

Manipur—12th September 1950.

The functions and powers of these Advisory Councils are similar to those of the Advisory Councils constituted for Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara. Copies of the instructions sent to the Chief Commissioners and of the notifications constituting the Councils are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 34].

The working of the Councils, though in some cases it has been useful in associating representative public men with the Local Administration, has not came up to expectations.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what has been the experience of the working of this Council in Himachal Pradesh and whether there exists harmonious relations between the Chief Commissioner and the Advisory Council there?

Shri Gopalaswami: I can speak about recent months. Those relations have not been satisfactory as borne out by the Members of the Council. They have been sending their resignations.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have there been any cases of difference of opinion between the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner in Manipur and may I know how the Council has been working there?

Shri Gopalaswami: Not quite satisfactory. I believe there has been difference of opinion.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any Member resigned?

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe so.

Shri Chaliha: May I know what is the number of representatives in the Advisory Council from the Manipur State Congress?

Shri Gopalaswami: I should like to have notice.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: In view of the experience of the unsatisfactory working of these Councils has Government any proposal to end or mend them on democratic lines?

Shri Gopalaswami: We are very actively exploring the question of ending or mending.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know whether there is any Advisory Council in Bhopal, Tripura and also Vindhya Pradesh?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think in those three States the question of constituting Advisory Councils has been under consideration.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the reason why the Advisory Council has not been extended to other States?

Shri Gopalaswami: Well, we have been trying to extend them to every State, but we have got to get the local reactions, and when conditions have become favourable they are established.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the resolutions passed by the Advisory Councils from time to time are examined by the Government of India? If so, do the Government of India convey their own views about those resolutions to the Chief Commissioners and then they are conveyed to the Members of the Advisory Councils?

Shri Gopalaswami: My recollection is that we get copies of these resolutions. But so far I have not had occasion to communicate any reactions of mine to those resolutions to the Chief Commissioner concerned.

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAYS

*2267. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the present condition of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railways;

(b) whether the repair works have begun; and

(c) if so, how far they have been completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). Heavy rainfall and cyclonic weather in the Darjeeling and adjacent hills on and about 11th and 12th June, 1950, caused many land slips on the Sevoke-Geillikhole, Siliguri-Kurseong and Kurseong-Darjeeling Sections of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. Sevoke-Geillikhole Section was also washed away by consequential floods in the Tista River at many places. As its restoration was found impracticable as well as uneconomic, Siliguri-Geillikhole Section has been abandoned. Repairs on the Siliguri-Kurseong Section and from Kurseong to the Salesian College Siding were carried out and rail services restored. Beyond Salesian Siding an 800 ft. land slide caused complete disappearance of the road and railway. This gap is being repaired by the West Bengal Government for restoring road communication and it would be possible to lay railway track about 6 weeks after the road repairs have been completed. Further repairs on a fairly large scale are required beyond this point before normal train services can be restored.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that a portion of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway will not be restored?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. The Siliguri-Geillikhole Section has been abandoned. The other Sections will be restored in due course.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the whole length of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway has got a special strategic position in the present international set-up, may I know whether the Railway Ministry have ascertained the opinion of the Defence Department about this matter?

Shri Santhanam: It is not a question of ascertaining anybody's opinion, because the whole line has been washed off and we cannot lay the track. The track is non-existing. It has had to be abandoned because it is on the borders of the river Tista.

Dr. M. M. Das: Do Government contemplate to build an alternative line?

Shri Santhanam: It is not now under contemplation.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the estimated loss to the railway?

Shri Santhanam: I remember to have given this in reply to a previous question, but I am afraid I have not got the figure with me just now.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the portion which has been washed away and which the Railway does not intend to repair is connected by some other alternative routes—motorable roads and things like that?

Shri Santhanam: It was both a road and a railway track. Whether the road will be restored I am not in a position to say. That is a matter I suppose for the West Bengal Government. But there are other roads leading from Darjeeling to Kalimpong. There are roads leading from Siliguri to Kalimpong. There are other ways of reaching Kalimpong.

CENTRAL GROUND WATER ORGANISATION

*2268. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the States that have received assistance from the Central Ground Water Organisation for drilling Tube wells;

(b) what particular types of assistance are generally asked for and given; and

(c) the amounts spent for this organisation during 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Tube-wells were drilled by the Central Ground Water Organisation in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Orissa, Delhi and Rajasthan.

(b) In addition to drilling tube-wells in doubtful areas for exploratory purposes, the Organisation used to train nominees of the State Governments in modern methods of construction of tube-wells with mechanical rigs, and arrange for procurement of machinery and stores required for tubewell construction. No such assistance is, however, possible now, as the Drilling Division and the Central Drilling School have been retrenched.

(c) About Rs. 7,73,000 and Rs. 2,89,000 were spent in 1949 and 1950 respectively.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total number of men trained by this organisation in drilling tube-wells?

Shri Thirumala Rao: 56 nominees were trained.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether these nominees have gathered the required experience and knowledge enabling them to sink tube-wells without the assistance of any foreign experts?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They are nominees from the States. I have no experience of the States with regard to the nominees.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what are the different systems of exploration which have been adopted by Government for the determination of the existence of sub-soil water?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I want notice of the question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that the Central Waterways organisation is not sinking any more tube-wells in the Centrally Administered Areas which are directly under them?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In Delhi they have successfully bored three wells and unsuccessfully seven.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What time did this organisation take to sink those three tube-wells in Delhi?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It was started in 1944, it started functioning effectively in 1946, but the Standing Finance Committee recommended its abolition in 1950.

Shri Sondhi: Why did it so recommend?

Mr. Speaker: That is not pertinent. The Standing Finance Committee's reports may be read for those reasons.

Shri Thirumala Rao: My hon. friend is a Member of that Committee.

Prof. Ranga: May I know how many applications were received by the Government of India from the States for sinking these wells and how many of them have been answered?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The total number of efforts made in this connection in all the States is 88 of which 69 were successful and 19 unsuccessful.

WIRELESS LINKS

*2269. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme to connect big Indian cities with high power wireless links, has been implemented;

(b) if so, the cities of India that have been so connected;

(c) the total expenditure for this purpose; and

(d) the reasons for which such connections were necessary?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The scheme to connect the cities of Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta by high power wireless links has been sanctioned and an order for the equipment to be imported from abroad has been placed. The equipment is expected between April and October, 1951.

(b) Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta will be connected under the Scheme.

(c) Rs. 43.58 lakhs.

(d) The wireless network will help in speeding up the traffic between these principal cities. There is one consideration more. Overhead landlines over these long distances are liable to interruption and breakdown.

When these interruptions or breakdowns occur during busy periods of the day, considerable congestion takes place in telegraph traffic and messages get delayed, causing inconvenience to public.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether these wireless stations are run by our Defence Ministry or by the Ministry of Communications?

Shri Kidwai: By the P. and T. Department.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total number of transmitters that are proposed to be installed in different cities of India and the capacity of each plant?

Shri Kidwai: Our immediate programme is to have wireless stations for long track transmission at the four cities named.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what will be the recurring expenditure per year for running these transmitters and what portion of it Government hopes to realize by the transmission of private messages?

Shri Kidwai: I am not in a position to give the figures about the annual recurring expenses, but the scheme will pay itself and will bring some profit to the Department.

INDIAN SHIPPING TRADE

*2270. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what proportion of our shipping trade is carried in Indian Ships?

(b) Is the coastal shipping trade of India owned, controlled and managed by Indian nationals?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) About 85 to 90 per cent. of India's coastal trade is at present carried in Indian ships. As regards the proportion of the trade carried by Indian ships in the overseas trades, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of starred question No. 310 asked by Shri Raj Bahadur on the 23rd November 1950.

(b) The bulk of the coastal trade of India is at present carried by Indian shipping which is controlled, managed, and owned or chartered, by Indian nationals. Through the operation of the licensing system introduced in the coastal trade under the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, gradual decrease in the foreign tonnage employed on the coast with corresponding increase in the Indian tonnage as and when they become available has been effected. The process of reduction in the foreign tonnage employed in the coastal trade has been accelerated by the announcement made by Government on the 15th August 1950 declaring their intention to reserve the coastal trade wholly for Indian shipping, if possible, within a period of one year.

A statement elucidating the position further is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 35.].

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what was the tonnage of shipping carried in Indian ships in 1950?

Shri Santhanam: Over 2 million tons.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many Indian shipping companies are there? How many ships each has?

Mr. Speaker: Was this not enquired into a few days back about coastal shipping and general shipping and all that?

Shri Santhanam: I have answered that.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow only this question, if he has got the information.

Shri Santhanam: I have got the information here.....

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid it is a matter of research. Let us have another question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is there any arrangement for the training of workers for shipping services?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. We have got training institutions both for officers as well as for ratings.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

ELECTRIC TRAINS IN BOMBAY

*2271. **Shri Sonavane:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before Government to extend the electrification of trains in Bombay State?

(b) How many accidents have taken place on the electric trains during the year 1950?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. The question of extension of electrification of the lines between Igatpuri and Bhusaval on the G.I.P. Railway in Bombay Presidency is under consideration.

(b) There were 748 accidents to human beings on Electric Trains on the G.I.P. and B.B. and C.I. Railways, out of these 88 were fatal and 660 non-fatal. It may be added that all these accidents were ordinary train accidents and not due to electrification.

Shri Sonavane: May I know, Sir, what is the annual saving of coal as a result of this electrification of trains in Bombay at present?

Shri Santhanam: I did not contemplate any such question.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether there is any proposal to extend the electrification of trains from Poona to Sholapur in the near future?

Shri Santhanam: Poona to Dhond is one of the sections contemplated but it may take a considerable time before we come to that.

Shri Sonavane: In what time in the near future is this extension of electrification likely to be completed or executed?

Shri Santhanam: It depends upon the finance and other circumstances, which I cannot forecast at present.

Shri Deogirikar: May I know how many accidents are due to foot-board many accidents are due to foot-board

Shri Santhanam: I do not think that any of these accidents were due to foot-board travel but I have not got the specific information.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how many of the new coaches to supplement these electric suburban trains to remove overcrowding have been ordered and when are they expected on the B.B. and C.I. and G.I.P. Railways?

Shri Santhanam: All the information was given in the papers supplied at the Budget time.

Shri Sidhva: This matter was not supplied, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: That means that he is not prepared to answer just now. He wants notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know how many microphones have been installed for the purpose of stopping these accidents and in which stations?

Mr. Speaker: He need not answer the question. It assumes that the accidents only take place at the stations. Next question.

AGRICULTURAL STUDY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*2272. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who have been sent to foreign countries for special studies in Animal Husbandry, Agriculture and Forestry in 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) what is Government's expenditure on each candidate?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) None in 1949-50. Seven in 1950-51.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 36].

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन पिछले दो सालों में जितने कैंडिडेट भेजे गये, उनमें कितने शिड्यूल्डड कास्ट के कैंडिडेट थे ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of scheduled castes candidates among those who have been sent abroad during the last two years?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is difficult to make out from the names how many of them belong to Scheduled Castes.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : یہ طلبا کتنے عرصہ میں واپس آ جائینگے اور ان کی خدمات کا فائدہ اٹھانے کا کیا پروگرام ہے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** How long will it take for these candidates to return and in what manner their services will be utilised?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: Two of them are sent for 2 years' training; one for one year, two for three months and two for 2 years. Those that have gone for three months must have returned.

Shri Sidhva: What are the special studies for which they are sent and how will they be useful in this country?

Mr. Speaker: In Animal Husbandry.

Shri Sidhva *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: In answer to a question, the hon. Minister said that it was difficult to make out from the names whether they are

Harijans or not. May I know whether he has given due representation for the Scheduled Castes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. When he does not know about it, it does not arise.

रेलवे की संयुक्त मंत्रणा समिति

*२२७३. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) १ मई, १९५० से ३० जनवरी, १९५१ तक रेलवे की संयुक्त मंत्रणा समिति की बैठकों की संख्या ;

(बी) इन बैठकों पर व्यय होने वाले धन की परिमात्रा ; तथा

(सी) इस समिति के सदस्यों को कितना दैनिक भत्ता तथा यात्रा भत्ता दिया जाता है ?

Joint Advisory Committee for Railways

[*2273. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of the Joint Advisory Committee for Railways held between the 1st May, 1950 and 30th January, 1951;

(b) the amount of money spent over these meetings; and

(c) what daily allowances and travelling allowances are paid to the Members of this Committee?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 73 days.

(b) Rs. 32,825/-.

(c) *Non-official members*:

Daily Allowance.—Rs. 20/- per day. Also admissible in respect of one day previous to the commencement of the meeting of the Committee if the member arrived at the place of meeting in the forenoon and one day after the termination if he left the place in the afternoon. In the case of members resident at places where the meetings of the Committee took place only the actual cost of conveyance hire subject to a maximum of Rs. 10/- per day instead of the daily allowance of Rs. 20/-.

Travelling Allowance.	*In respect of journey by air*	1½ of the standard air fare.
	In respect of rail journey	Free 1st Class pass and daily allowance at Rs. 20/- per day.

Official Members:

Allowances admissible under the departmental rules by which they were governed.

Shri Jangde: Has this Committee been abolished?

Shri Santhanam: It has terminated its labours and therefore it has ceased to exist.

Shri Jangde: What are the reasons for abolishing it?

Shri Santhanam: There is no question of abolition. It was an *ad hoc* Committee appointed for a particular purpose. As soon as the purpose was fulfilled, the Committee came to an end.

Shri Jangde: What are the specific functions that were performed by the Joint Advisory Committee?

Shri Santhanam: The Committee was appointed to consider the question of anomalies arising out of the application of the Central Pay Commission scales to Railway workers.

Shri Jandge: Are the decisions of the Committee on any matter binding on the Railway Ministry?

Shri Santhanam: They are not strictly binding, but most of the recommendations were accepted by the Railway Ministry.

Shri Alagesan: Here the question refers to the Central Advisory Council for Railways and the answer seems to relate to the Joint Advisory Committee for Railways. I would like to have a clarification.

Shri Santhanam: That has been corrected by the Parliament office.

Mr. Speaker: The question as printed requires correction. The question relates to the Joint Advisory Committee.

Shri Jandge: Who were the Members of the Joint Advisory Committee?

Were there any non-official Members in it?

Shri Santhanam: The Committee consisted of an independent Chairman, four representatives of the Railway administration and four representatives of Railway workers.

Rice from Thailand

*2277. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of rice that was imported from Thailand in the year 1950; and

(b) the price at which the rice from Thailand was purchased?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The quantity of rice imported from Thailand in 1950 was 111,000 tons.

(b) Prices vary from Rs. 16-6-3 to Rs. 18-7-11 per maund ex-mill in bulk for broken and Bangkok Special qualities and Rs. 19-14-3 to Rs. 22-2 per maund ex-mill in bulk for whole rice qualities.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: Is it a fact that the agents purchased rice in the Thailand market at Rs. 10/- per maund and sold it to the Government at Rs. 23/- a maund?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have no information.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the procurement price of rice in Thailand is higher than the procurement price in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The hon. Member can compare the prices I have given: Rs. 16-6-3 per maund. The procurement price of paddy in India is Rs. 8-12-0.

Shri Chattopadhyay: I want to know the procurement price of rice; I did not want to know the procurement price of paddy.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want time to calculate.

Shri T. N. Singh: Will the Government kindly inform the House what is the market rate at present in Thailand for rice, and whether any rice is being imported in the year 1951?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our officers in Thailand negotiated the price of this large quantity of rice through Government agencies there. I have no information as to what the actual market price now is. We are negotiating at the cheapest possible price. With regard to the second part of the question, for the year 1951, we are getting 300,000 tons of rice from Thailand.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the procurement price of rice in some parts of India is only Rs. 12-12 from the mills?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Rice or paddy?

Shri Chattopadhyay: I mean rice.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think so.

Shri Kamath: Was any officer deputed from here to Thailand specially for this purpose and if so what were his qualifications and experience in this line of examining rice?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any officer specially deputed now.

Shri Kamath: You had better make sure.

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed to the next question.

बकरी पालन केन्द्र

*२२७८. **श्री बी. ऐस. आर्य :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) भारत में मैरिनो तथा अंगोरा बकरी पालन केंद्रों की संख्या तथा उन राज्यों के नाम जहां यहें स्थित हैं; तथा

(बी) इन भेड़ पालन केन्द्रों से प्रति वर्ष प्राप्त होने वाले ऊन की परिमात्रा ?

Goat Breeding Centres

[*2278. **Shri B. S. Arya:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Marino and Angora Goat breeding Centres in India and the names of States where they are situated; and

(b) the quantity of wool obtained from these sheep breeding centres per year?]

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Farms only for breeding of Marino sheep and Angora Goats have not been established in India but as an experimental measure Marino are being used for cross-breeding with local ewes at sheep-breeding research stations set up by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Bombay and Kashmir.

With the object of evolving a Punjab type Angora goat, cross-breeding

of indigenous hill goats with the imported Angora bucks was carried out at Hissar Farm in the Punjab. As proper facilities were not available in the hills of the Punjab the work has been shifted to Pipalcoti Farm in U.P.

(b) A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 37].

श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य : क्या यह बात सही है कि सरकार पीपलकोटी के शीप फार्म को कालसी बदलना चाहती है ?

[Shri B. S. Arya: Is it a fact that the Government want to shift the Sheep Farm from Pipalkoti to Kalsi?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: No; there is no such proposal at present.

CARRIAGE OF MAIL TO LUNGLEH *via* PAKISTAN

*2279. **Shri Saprawnga:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to part (c) (iv) of the answer given to starred question No. 1128 (c) of 20th December, 1950 and state:

(a) what arrangement the Government of India have made with the Pakistan Government in regard to mail and parcel bags carried to Lungleh *via* Pakistan, and who will be responsible for any pilferage or loss of bags during transit through Pakistan;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that, during the last three years, Postal Services to Lungleh *via* Pakistan have become so irregular that parcels sent from Calcutta take two or three months to reach destination;

(c) what are the reasons for such delay; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Mails from and to Lungleh to and from other parts of India pass through East Pakistan in closed bags. They are transit miles whose conveyance through foreign territory is regulated by the Universal Postal Convention.

Pakistan Administration is liable, under the terms of the convention, for any pilferage or loss which occurs while the mails are in its care.

(b) and (c). During the last three years there has been no serious delay to first class mails. Occasionally parcel mails have been subjected to some delay, which is due to very heavy booking of parcels from Calcutta for Lungleh and due to floods on the mail line.

(d) Prompt action is taken to provide more staff particularly runners to clear the accumulation.

Shri Saprawnga: May I know what is the daily lifting capacity of these services and to what extent that capacity falls short of the actual requirements?

Shri Kidwai: In the past two years, occasionally, there were heavy bookings in Calcutta for mails to Assam both *via* Pakistan and otherwise. Also there were accumulations for other parts of India, for want of accommodation. Both in India and Pakistan, the parcels were delayed till special arrangements were possible.

Shri Saprawnga: What is the amount of money paid to the Pakistan Government for the carrying of mails?

Shri Kidwai: The figures are not yet available.

AIR CARRYING SERVICES IN CALCUTTA

*2281. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 30 Air Carrying Services have started in Calcutta, offering to arrange transport of goods by Air:

(b) whether it is a fact that these Services have put in a condition in the consignment note purporting that they shall be exempted from all liabilities under the Law in any case of loss, damage, pilferage or detention from any cause whatsoever;

(c) whether it is a fact that this condition has resulted in loss and harassment to the consigning public of Calcutta; and

(d) if Government are aware of the above, whether they propose to take steps in the matter?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Many firms have recently sprung up in Calcutta for booking of freight for transport by air; but their precise number is not known.

(b) The conditions under which these private firms undertake such business are not known to Government or regulated by them.

(c) No complaints have so far been received from consignors about loss and harassment.

(d) Apparently the terms on which these private booking agencies offer to act are subject to acceptance by the consignor. It is not proposed to interfere in the matter unless these

firms indulge in any activity prohibited by law.

Shri Barman: Sir, in view of the fact that the prestige of Government is involved in the good or bad service rendered by these firms that have been started, do Government not think it desirable to enquire into the matter and set right anything that may require correction?

Shri Kidwai: No complaint by any consignor has been made to Government.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister said that the actual number of the firms that have recently sprung up in Calcutta is not known. Then am I to understand that no licensing is necessary for carrying on this service?

Shri Kidwai: Individuals accept goods from the consignors for transmission and they transmit them to the operating services. Therefore it is only the operating services which are given licenses, but any agent can work in a private capacity to supply goods to be transmitted.

Shri Chaliha: May I know, Sir, whether these private air-freighters overload the planes and cause trouble?

Shri Kidwai: But the complaint is not against the private operators but it is against the booking agents.

Shri Barman: Have Government enquired whether the consignee is the actual consignee to whom the goods are sent?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid, that is trying to make out a case.

HIGHWAYS IN CHOTA NAGPUR

*2282. **Shri Ansari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state how many Highways in Chota Nagpur are under the Government of India?

(b) What is the amount annually spent on their maintenance?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Four.

(b) Separate figures of the amounts spent annually on the maintenance of National Highways in Chota Nagpur are not available as the accounts are not kept district-wise. On the basis of average mileage rate of maintenance expenditure in Bihar of which Chota Nagpur forms a part, annual maintenance expenditure works out to about Rs. 11.0 lacs.

Shri Ansari: Sir, May I know how many miles of road are covered by these National Highways?

Shri Santhanam: There are 418 miles of National Highways in Chota Nagpur.

Shri Ansari: What is the estimate in 1949-50 for their maintenance?

Shri Santhanam: The average rate for maintenance is at Rs. 2,000 per mile.

Saikh Mohiuddin: Sir, may I know whether any repair work was done to these roads during the year 1949-50?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, every year the Government makes a grant to the Bihar Government for maintenance and they maintain these National Highways.

SURVEY OF RANCHI-GAYA RAILWAY LINE

*2283. **Shri Ansari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what was the amount of expenditure incurred in the survey of the proposed Ranchi Gaya line on East Indian Railway?

(b) Why was the proposal abandoned?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Rs. 3,40,000 approximately.

(b) The project was abandoned as it was not financially justified.

Shri Ansari: Sir, may I know whether the Government contemplate restarting this work in the near future?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. The Central Board of Transport considered this on 30th August, 1949 and they decided to drop the project for the present.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Sir, do Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the report of the Central Board of Transport which recommended the abandonment of this scheme?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, the Central Board of Transport considers these questions on the basis of survey reports and other materials supplied by the Railway and in this case, after consideration, the Board came to the conclusion that it should be dropped.

CARRIAGE OF MAIL BETWEEN KALIAGUNJ AND BALURGHAT

*2284. **Shri S. M. Ghose:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that in the district of West Dinajpur, West Bengal, it requires two

or three days for Mail bags to be carried by runners from Kaliagunj to Balurghat (the district headquarters), a distance of about 52 miles, and thence to Hili (an important trade centre), a distance of about 13 miles, requiring another day more?

(b) Do Government consider it desirable to introduce the system of carrying Mail bags in Motor Vans instead of carrying them by runners to remove the great inconvenience to the public of those places?

(c) Is there any definite proposal before Government to open Telephone line connecting Hili with Calcutta in the near future?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The facts are as follows: Mail bags which reach Kaliagunj Railway Station at 6-56 P.M. are despatched from there at 0-8-00 A.M. through runners arriving at Balurghat at 12-15 P.M. next day. Thence they are carried to Hili by motor vehicles, the journey taking two hours.

From 27th July, 1950 to 11th January, 1951 first class mails for and from Balurghat were given air transmission through a non-scheduled daily service. In connection with the reconditioning of the air strip at Balurghat, this aerodrome has temporarily been closed to passenger carrying planes and the air service has, therefore, been suspended with effect from the 12th of January, 1951.

(b) It is not possible to carry mails between Kaliagunj and Balurghat by motor vans as the present road connecting the two places is not motorable.

(c) No. But the question will be re-examined if local subscribers are prepared to provide necessary funds either by subscribing under the "Own Your Telephone" Scheme or by deposits.

Shri S. M. Ghose: Arising out of part (b) may I know whether Government are prepared to explore the possibilities of using motor bicycles for this purpose?

Shri Kidwai: This will be examined, and if that is possible. I will be glad to introduce the system.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND SUGAR CANE PRICES

*2286. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the manufacture of power alcohol out of molasses has in any way affected sugar production and if so, to what extent?

(b) Is it a fact that Government are actively contemplating reduction in basic prices of sugarcane in order, ultimately, to bring down the manufacturing cost of power alcohol?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Manufacture of power alcohol out of molasses does not seem to have in any way affected sugar production.

(b) No.

Shri M. Naik: May I know whether substitutes have been tried for the production of power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have no information, and I don't know how that arises.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Sir, how many factories have been set up for the manufacture of this power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have no information.

Mr. Speaker: I think this question was put quite recently.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Sir, in view of the fact that large quantities of molasses are produced in the different factories in the country, do Government contemplate the starting of more factories to produce power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, these are situated in the States and the State Governments will do whatever is necessary to utilise the molasses.

CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*2287. **Shri M. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date progress in the construction of the Calcutta-Bombay and Calcutta-Madras National Highways falling within territorial jurisdiction of Orissa State;

(b) in how many cases of the fourteen major bridges to be constructed in Orissa, actual construction has been started; and

(c) what is the estimated period within which construction of all these bridges is proposed to be completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Calcutta-Bombay National Highway—(N.H.No. 6) 22 works estimated to cost Rs. 104.11 lakhs are in progress.

Calcutta-Madras National Highway—(N.H.No. 5) 24 works estimated to cost Rs. 110.16 lakhs are in progress.

(b) Two bridges have been completed and work on 8 others is in progress.

(c) As quickly as funds become available.

Shri Kesava Rao: Sir, may I know which are the two bridges which the hon. Minister says, have been completed?

Shri Santhanam: They are the bridges over the Mahanadi and the Koakhai.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether Government are not thinking of a bridge across the Godavari?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, but that is a different question

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, to what extent is the progress of construction of these roads behind the schedule?

Shri Santhanam: Only to the extent that the entire national programme is behind the Nagpur Plan.

Shri M. Naik: Sir, arising out of part (b), did the hon. Minister refer to the bridge over the Mahanadi at Sambalpur or at Cuttack?

Shri Santhanam: It is the Sambalpur bridge that has been completed.

Shri M. Naik: May I know whether any construction work has yet been taken up over the Brahmani and Baitarani rivers?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, the work in connection with bridges over the Brahmani, the Baitarani, the Subarnarekha and two more rivers has been started.

Shri M. Naik: What is the progress so far?

Mr. Speaker: They have been completed, I suppose?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir, they are under construction.

Shri M. Naik: What is the progress?

Mr. Speaker: To say about the progress is a difficult matter. We go to the next question.

POLITICAL PENSION-HOLDERS

*2289. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to refer to his answer to starred question No. 1910 asked on 5th March 1951 and state the number and names of political pensionholders, who, or whose ancestors, were granted such pensions by the British Government for the help rendered to them during India's First War of Independence of 1857?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): The required information is not readily available and the collection of such information would involve time and labour hardly commensurate with its value. As already stated in this House earlier, the cases of Political pensions are already being reviewed to decide which of them can be discontinued or restricted to the life-time of the present holders.

Shri Kamath: Sir, from the answer, am I to understand that the number of cases is far too numerous for the labour to be undertaken?

Shri Gopalaswami: The cases are too numerous and the information will have to be collected from a number of scattered units.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact then that among these political pensioners are a large number of people whose ancestors were granted pensions by the British Government for having assisted them, that is the British Government in India's first War of Independence?

Shri Gopalaswami: There were some cases of that sort. I can give the hon. Member the number of cases that have been actually re-examined if that would interest him.

Shri Kamath: Yes, how many continue?

Shri Gopalaswami: The total number of cases disposed of is 42. The number of pensions which have been discontinued after this examination was 11. The number of pensions restricted to the life-time of the present grantee is 31.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, is the total amount of pension per annum so granted?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is covered by the first part of my answer.

Shri Kamath: Total amount?

Mr. Speaker: Total amount of all the political pensioners?

Shri Kamath: Of this category.

Mr. Speaker: How can the category be selected.....?

Shri Kamath: Of all the cases?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am not in a

position to give the information offhand.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that landed property of certain leaders of the first War of Independence was confiscated by the British Government and re-settled by those who had helped the British Government at that time, may I know whether the Government of India would consider the desirability of returning that landed property to the original owners?

Mr. Speaker: It is a clear suggestion.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the total of these 11 cases which have been decided, and of the 31 in which the pensions are limited to the actual holders?

Shri Gopalaswami: The annual saving which has been effected by the discontinuance of the 11 pensions is Rs. 6,600. I am afraid I have not the figure for the 31 others which have been restricted to the life-time of the present holders.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many persons were granted land after 1857 in view of their services?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is also covered by the first part of my answer.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS OFFICES IN HYDERABAD

*2290. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many Posts and Telegraphs offices were opened in urban and rural areas in the State of Hyderabad during 1950; and

(b) how many Posts and Telegraphs offices are proposed to be opened during 1951, in rural as well as urban areas?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):

Urban areas—	
Post Offices	. 1
Telegraph offices	. 5
Rural areas—	
Post Offices	. 7
Telegraph offices	. *nil*

(b) Posts and Telegraphs Offices proposed to be opened during 1951—

Urban areas—	
Post Offices	. *nil*
Telegraph offices	. 39
Rural areas—	
Post Offices	. 60
Telegraph offices	. *nil*

Shri S. V. Naik: In view of the fact that Hyderabad was one of the last States to accede to Indian Union, will any particular consideration be shown to Hyderabad?

Shri Kidwai: The figures that I have given show that particular attention is being given to Hyderabad.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many post and telegraph offices were there before these new offices were opened in 1950?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has the hon. Minister examined what is the average area covered by every post office in Hyderabad as compared with other States?

Shri Kidwai: It covers a smaller area than that covered by post offices in Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: We will now go to those questions in respect of which authority has been given to Mr. B. K. Pani.

Shri Rathnaswamy: My question No. 2274 has also to be answered, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was not present when his question was called. Now after I have called the other questions if there is time his question may be taken up.

MANUFACTURE OF WAGONS

*2275. **Shri B. K. Pani** on behalf of **(Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi):** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of workshops and factories in India which manufacture wagons;

(b) the capacity of manufacture in respect of each;

(c) what orders if any, the Railways placed in the past with the said workshops or factories; and

(d) whether the orders were executed in full and in time?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) There are four workshops in India which manufacture wagons, but without wheels and axles, and their names are—

(i) Messrs. Burn and Co. Ltd., Howrah.

(ii) Messrs. Indian Standard Wagon Co. Ltd., near Asansol.

(iii) Messrs. Jessop and Co. Ltd., Calcutta.

(iv) Messrs. Braithwaite and Co. (India), Ltd., Calcutta.

(b) and (c). Two statements containing the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 38].

(d) Orders placed on these firms in the past have generally been executed in full, but there have been some delays in completing them due to difficulties in procurement of materials and labour troubles.

DISMISSAL OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*2276. **Shri B. K. Pani** on behalf of **(Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi):** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the number of Railway employees who were dismissed from service during 1950-51 on charges of theft, pilferage and bribery?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The number of Railway employees who were dismissed from service during 1950-51 on charges of theft, pilferage and bribery is 437.

Shri B. K. Pani: May I know the number of such employees from B.N.Railway?

Shri Santhanam: Fifty-nine.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know the saving effected on pilferages and thefts as a result of these dismissals, that is, the number of thefts that have decreased as the result of these dismissals in the Railways?

Mr. Speaker: Saving in the payment of compensation?

Dr. Deshmukh: Have thefts gone down as a result of these dismissals?

Mr. Speaker: I could not follow the question at all. The question hour is over.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

LOCUSTS IN WEST BENGAL

Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that locusts have made their appearance in some districts of West Bengal, recently; and

(b) if so, (i) the last date when Bengal or other neighbouring States were invaded by locusts;

(ii) the extent of damage done by locusts by their present invasion in West Bengal;

(iii) the measures taken by Government for fighting off the locusts in West Bengal?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) On the 20th February, 1951 a swarm visited Fulkusma of Raipur Thana in the District of Bankura. On the 28th February, a swarm had passed over some villages of Midnapore District. On the 1st March, a locust swarm visited the Diamond Harbour area near Calcutta, and it passed over that city on the 2nd March. A small section of this swarm is reported to have visited Midnapore District the same evening.

(ii) The damage is reported to have been negligible.

(iii) Since the swarm had settled down for a short period only, control measures on a regular scale were not necessary, but the Government of West Bengal undertook suitable control measures.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the locust menace is very, very uncommon in West Bengal, may I know whether the West Bengal Government has at their disposal trained men and material to fight the locusts or whether they applied to the Central Government for help in these respects?

Shri Thirumala Rao: These swarms of locusts have taken the West Bengal Government by surprise. They have at present at their service all the resources and they have at their disposal also the services of the Public Health Department to meet the menace immediately. This is an experience which has not been within the knowledge of experts during the last several decades. Steps will be taken hereafter to see that the menace is warded off.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that locusts are eaten as delicacies in some parts of the world and is it a fact that the Food and Agriculture Department of the Central Government in collaboration with a certain women's organisation are attempting to prepare suitable menus from locusts?

Shri Thirumala Rao: If the doctor gives his own experience about it we shall consider it.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: At what height do these locusts fly?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They fly at a great height which cannot be easily reached even by aeroplanes, I think, but they are however visible.

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I may invite the attention of hon. Members

to one of our rules which says that questions should be put with reference to facts within the special knowledge of the Minister. So details regarding scientific investigations and other technical questions are not matters within the special cognizance of the Minister. Enquiries may be made outside the House.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know what help the Central Government has sent to the West Bengal Government or other parts of India which have been invaded by locusts, through the Central Locust Organisation? What has been the form of that help?

Shri Thirumala Rao: With regard to West Bengal the time at our disposal was not enough. Before any help could be sent the locusts should be seen. With regard to other particulars in the case of the Punjab, which is the usual victim of the locust menace all the available resources of our organisation with regard to locust destruction were placed at the disposal of the Punjab Government. Our locust expert and others were sent immediately to the scene.

Shri Kamath: With regard to the locust invasion this year, is there any pincer movement in East the West and if so, what is the position today? Is the invasion retreating or advancing?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is no pincer movement. They have been proceeding from the West to the East and their movement could not be further traced now.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Central Locust Organisation advise the various States about the life cycle and habits of these locusts? If so, was the West Bengal Government aware of this matter?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Within the experience and knowledge of the Central Locust Organisation there is a belt within which these cycles proceed and West Bengal was not within the belt to receive any timely warning.

Morocco

Shri Joachim Alva: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what is the latest information at the disposal of the Government of India in regard to the situation in Morocco?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Government of India is not in a position to give any precise information about the present situation in Morocco, as that situation is, apparently, a changing one. In Morocco, as elsewhere in North Africa, there have long been demands for freedom and National Parties have been built up voicing these demands. The National Party in Morocco is the "Istiqlal Party" which has been in existence for a quarter of a century or more. In 1912, a treaty was signed by the French Government and the then Sultan of Morocco. Under this treaty a large part of Morocco became a French Protectorate. A much smaller part of the country is under the Spanish Government, and there is the international territory of Tangier. The Istiqlal Party has aimed at the abrogation of this treaty of 1912.

In the course of the last World War various assurances were given by the Allied Powers promising freedom to Morocco. President Roosevelt, in the course of a visit to Morocco, met the Sultan and gave him this personal assurance. At the end of the War, it was natural for the people of Morocco to expect fulfilment of these promises. The Sultan had associated himself with the popular party and demanded that Morocco must be united and liberated from Foreign control. Recently some conflicts have occurred between the French authorities in Morocco and the popular party, as a result of which there is widespread feeling and excitement in Morocco.

The Government of India earnestly hope that there will be a satisfactory settlement between the French Government and the popular movement in Morocco which will ensure freedom to that country.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Catering on Railways

*2274. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to re-organise the Western style of catering on railways; and

(b) if so, whether any officers have been deputed to investigate into the whole matter and make necessary recommendations?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) An *ad* hoc committee was set up and the committee has submitted its report, which is under consideration of Government.

Urs of Hazrat Khwaja Saheb

*2285. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether in last April, about 40,000 pilgrims from different parts of India visited Ajmer, for the Urs of Hazrat Khwaja Saheb?

(b) Is it a fact that the Urs is going to be celebrated this year during the second week of April and the number of visitors will be the same, if not more, this year?

(c) Is it a fact that there was some notification asking the intending pilgrims to Ajmer to bring rice and sugar with them, and that on the intervention and request of some, Uttar Pradesh Government were pleased to arrange for extra food stuff for Ajmer, during that time?

(d) If so, are Government prepared to place extra quantities of rationed food stuffs in Ajmer, for the use of the intending pilgrims during this year's celebrations?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirmulala Rao): (a) The number of pilgrims who visited Ajmer during the Urs of Hazrat Khwaja Saheb in 1950 was about 30 to 35 thousand.

(b) Yes.

(c) The pilgrims were advised to bring their rations with them. The Government of India have no information about extra foodstuffs being arranged by the U.P. Government for the Urs of 1950.

(d) The Chief Commissioner has asked for an additional quota of 10 tons of rice and 15 tons of sugar and these have been sanctioned.

Radio Licences

*2288. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the replies to starred question No. 1922 asked on 5th March 1951 and to state:

(i) the number of Radio Licences issued for possession of wireless receiving sets State by State during the years 1949 and 1950;

(ii) the fees realised on this account from each such State; and

(iii) the number of licences issued for community sets in the State of Assam during the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (i) and (ii). State-wise figures for 1949 are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XV, annexure No. 39].

State-wise figures for 1950 are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received. Meanwhile Circle-wise figures are being furnished in the statement.

(iii)	1949	.. ..	100
	1950	.. ..	100

Expansion of Civil Aviation

137. Prof. S. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many States have prepared or are implementing schemes for the expansion of civil aviation; and

(b) whether any assistance has been sought for by any State from the Centre?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Civil Aviation is a Central subject, and the Central Government, which prepares and implements schemes for the development of civil aviation, is not aware of any civil aviation development scheme of any State. But some State Governments make grants to Flying Clubs in their areas, and some have also constructed air strips for internal communication purposes.

(b) Yes, Sir. Apart from technical advice sought from the Civil Aviation Department by some State Governments in connection with the development of air strips in their territories from within their own resources, the Governments of Assam and Tripura asked the Central Government to undertake the construction of aerodromes urgently required in their States.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 19th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Dr. C. D. Pande (Uttar Pradesh).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TROUBLES IN NEPAL

*2291. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent troubles in Nepal have had any effect on the recruitment of Gurkhas in the Indian army; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). The free movement of recruiters and recruits was hampered and the rate of intake accordingly slowed down. In spite of this, our entire commitments of Gurkha recruits from Nepal for the year 1950-51 have been met.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what is the total strength allowed to the British under the agreement, and whether it is up to them to increase it also?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Under the agreement the total strength allowed is 8 battalions or 10,400 men. Also under the agreement, I believe with the permission of the Nepal Government, and if it does not interfere with our recruitment in Nepal, they are allowed to increase the strength up to one division of 25,000 men.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there has been any adverse effect on the human material available to us because of the British

recruiting centres functioning side by side with our recruiting centres?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No, Sir. They do their recruiting in consultation with us and we had no difficulty so far.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is under the consideration of the Government to increase our recruiting strength?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No, Sir,

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether Gurkhas are still being recruited to the Assam Rifles and, if so, what is their percentage?

Major-General Himatsinhji: They are recruited as in the past. The percentage is above 40.

Shri Chaliha: And what is the reason for recruiting Gurkhas to the Assam Rifles?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We need not go into that.

Shri Joachim Alva: What are the places from which the British recruit and what are their terms of payment for the Gurkha soldiers?

Major-General Himatsinhji: They have got separate recruiting centres and Gurkhas are recruited by H.M.G. from Nepal only.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I say a word, Sir? The House will remember that Nepal is an independent nation, and an independent nation can come to any terms with another independent nation —subject to such interest as we might have. Our concern chiefly came in, and we were consulted, because it is not possible for anyone to go to Nepal unless he crosses India. Therefore we came into the picture. It was a friendly arrangement whereby we agreed to certain passages etc., and we were consulted. Otherwise these details are none of our making or in which we were concerned.

(b) what are the reasons for continuing them in service?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House giving details of superannuated persons retained in the public interest in this Ministry after specific sanction for a specified period in each case; [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 1.] similar information in regard to persons serving in other Ministries is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri Sidhva: From the statement I find that there are nearly 22 officers who have been allowed to continue in service after the superannuated period. May I know the reason for this? No other reason has been given except "dearth of experienced officers". May I know what particular kind of qualifications are required for a D. S. P. etc. in the Intelligence Bureau and are not such people forthcoming?

Mr. Speaker: I think it will be a detailed enquiry in respect of each case. It will be going into administrative details.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know whether new officers are not available from recruits?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that this legitimately arises from this question. He may contact the Minister.

Shri Sidhva: Another question. What is the policy of Government regarding superannuated officers?

Mr. Speaker: That has been stated in the House a number of times.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether that policy is being followed?

Shri Gadgil: The policy of Government is very clear and for the benefit of my hon friend I may tell him that formal instructions banning the re-employment or retention in service of superannuated officers were issued in May, 1945. This was reinforced in October, 1949 when Government directed that re-employment or extension should not be given except in very special circumstances. With regard to the exceptions, there has been a little liberalisation so far as two categories are concerned and they are (i) scientific and technical personnel and (ii) displaced officers who continue to be physically fit and whose services are considered useful to Government.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the cases of superannuated persons are placed before the U.P.S.C. before their appointment?

Shri Gadgil: As regards extension, it is done and as regards re-employment, the normal procedure is followed.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Home Ministry's Resolution in connection with re-employment of superannuated officers is being followed strictly?

Shri Gadgil: That is so. In every case, sanction is obtained from the Home Ministry.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know whether superannuated Secretaries to Government also come under the category of technically qualified persons?

Shri Gadgil: Technically qualified persons are technically qualified persons. What more can I say about that?

Mica

*2296. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the total quantity and value of mica produced in undivided India during the year 1946, and that produced in the Union of India during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 up to the end of December, 1950?

(b) What quantity was consumed locally and what quantity was exported outside India during these years?

(c) Which of the Indian States are the biggest mica-producing areas?

(d) What facilities and encouragement are given by the State Governments or the Government of India to those engaged in this trade to improve the quality and quantity of production?

(e) What is the extent of the stock accumulated awaiting export in Calcutta and other exporting ports?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). Reliable figures regarding production of mica in India are not available. There is practically no indigenous consumption. The export figures are as follows:

Year	Quantity	Value
1946-47	1,85,278 Cwts.	Rs. 300.09 lakhs
1948-49	3,39,975 Cwts.	Rs. 592.39 ,,
1949-50	2,84.849 Cwts.	Rs. 669.25 ,,
1950-51 (Up to December, 1950)	2 33,872 Cwts.	Rs. 657.78 ,,

(c) Bihar, Rajasthan and Madras.

(d) The Government of India have no information regarding the facilities given by the State Governments for improving the quality and increasing the production of mica. The Government of India are, however, giving facilities in the shape of releases of steel, cement, coal and wagons and the services of our officers, whenever the industry asks for them. Facilities are also afforded for bringing in foreign technical experts required by the industry. For the purpose of improving the quality of mica, the Indian Standards Institution are trying to evolve international standards for mica with the co-operation of the International Standards Organisation.

(e) The Government have no information regarding this. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by the hon. Shri N. V. Gadgil to part (c) of his Starred Question No. 151 on 30th November, 1949.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether there is any machinery maintained by Government for collecting statistics in regard to mica production?

Shri Sri Prakasa: It has been very difficult to get hold of these statistics, but efforts are being made to get them.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether it is a fact that the quantity of mica exported from India has declined on account of bad quality in recent times?

Shri Sri Prakasa: No, Sir. That is not so. But I might state that during the war a large amount of mica was purchased by the United Kingdom and they have a very large stock there. An arrangement has been made whereby they should sell out only limited quantities so that our own industry may not suffer. It may be that because of that pile which is in the market, our exports have decreased.

Dr. Parmar: May I know whether it is a fact that there are large deposits of mica in Himachal Pradesh and if so what steps are being taken to utilise them?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Our information is that mica deposits are found in Bihar, Rajasthan and Madras. We are not aware of such deposits in Himachal Pradesh. I shall be grateful if the hon. Member could inform us about the place where we can find them.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: Is it the policy of Government to give leases of mica mines to co-operatives of mica workers where such workers' co-operatives are in existence in preference to big traders?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The whole matter is before me. At the present moment, because the Rajasthan Government had already given licences to various private parties these workers' co-operatives have come in appeal to me. I am looking into the whole question.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if foreign mica is imported for splitting and if so, does our export exclude that mica?

Shri Sri Prakasa: May I draw the attention of my hon. friend and the House generally to the Report of the Mica Enquiry Committee. They will find in it much useful information about the matter referred to by my hon. friend in Chapter IX. It is a fact that a large amount of mica was being imported, but it is our effort to utilise indigenous mica for Railways and other industries so that the amount of mica imported may be less.

Gilgit Manuscripts on Buddhism

*2297. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's oldest treasures of manuscripts, the Gilgit Papers on Buddhism have been rehabilitated; and

(b) if so, whether it was with the help of foreign experts or laboratory experiments carried out in National Archives?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): آنریبل اسپیکر کی اجازت سے میں بیٹھ کر جواب دینا چاہتا ہوں - (اے) - گلگٹ میلسکرپٹس کی درستگی کا کام بہت ہو چکا ہے اور تھوڑا کام جو باقی رہ گیا ہے وہ بھی تیزی کے ساتھ ہو رہا ہے - اور امید ہے کہ جلد ختم ہو جائیگا -

(بی) باہر کی ایکسپرٹ اوپینین لی گئی تھی لیکن آخر میں کام کا

جو ڈھنگ کام میں لایا گیا وہ وہی تھا جو نیشنل آرکائوس کی ریپئرشاپ نے آپنے تجربے سے نکالا تھا -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) The rehabilitation of the Gilgit manuscripts has been taken up and the major items in the collections have been renovated. The repair of the rest is in progress and is expected to be completed shortly.

(b) Foreign experts were consulted but the final process for repairing the pages was evolved as a result of experiments made at the repair shop of the National Archives.]

प्रो० ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि इसकी मरम्मत के सिलसिले में उसका कोई हिस्सा खराब हो रहा है ?

[Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any part of it has been deformed during repairs.]

مولانا آزاد : نہیں اس وقت تک ۳۳۶ پیج درست ہو چکے ہیں اور اس میں کوئی پیج کی درستی خراب نہیں ہوئی ہے اور جو پیج باقی ہیں - امید کی جاتی ہے کہ جو ڈھنگ درستگی کا نکل آیا ہے اس سے کوئی پیج خراب نہیں ہوگا اور سب ٹھیک ٹھیک درست ہو جائینگے -

[Maulana Azad: No. 336 pages have been repaired till now and no repairs of any page have been deformed, and for the rest of the pages it is expected that as a result of the process of repair that has now been evolved no page would be deformed and all will be renovated.]

प्रो० ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि एक और तरह की मैनुस्क्रिप्ट की मरम्मत शुरू हो गयी है ?

[Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether another method of renovating the manuscripts has been discovered?].

مولانا آزاد : ہاں شروع میں جو ڈھنگ تھا اس سے کام لیا جاتا تھا - لیکن یہ مینسکرپٹس کاغذ پر نہیں ہیں یہ تو چھال کے بنے ہوئے ہیں - اس لئے ان کے لئے خاص طور سے انتظام کیا گیا -

[Maulana Azad: Yes, in the beginning, the usual method was adopted. But this manuscript is not on paper but on bark. Therefore special arrangements have got to be made for that.]

COLOMBO PLAN

*2298. **Shri Goenka:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assumption of an estimated drawing of pounds thirty-five million per annum for a few years, from the sterling balances, mentioned in page 19 of the Colombo Plan, is on the basis of an agreement arrived at by the Government of India with the Government of the United Kingdom;

(b) if so, when the negotiations were conducted and when the agreement was arrived at; and

(c) whether Parliament or any Committee thereof was taken into confidence before negotiations commenced with the Government of the United Kingdom?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The figure of £35 million per annum for sterling releases was incorporated in the Colombo Plan before this scale of releases was agreed to between the Government of the U. K. and the Government of India.

(b) My discussions with the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the U. K. Government took place on the 21st September, 1950 and the conclusions reached were subsequently approved by the two Governments.

(c) No, Sir. Such consultation was not considered necessary.

I should like to add that on the first occasion, that is to say, May 1948, a long term sterling balance agreement was to have been entered into with the United Kingdom Government for the first time. There were other matters, such as final settlement on account of defence stores, capitalisation of sterling pensions, extent of convertibility, etc., to be discussed. In May, 1949 the position reached was that as a result of the liberalised import policy of 1948-49 we had proposed

asking for special modifications in the agreement made in July 1948. In the present agreement there was no such complications.

Shri Goenka: May I know, Sir, if the Finance Minister is aware of the fact that the British Press has been representing the Colombo Plan as a 'Charity Box' for the benefit of the Asian countries: if so, whether the British contribution is supposed to be our own sterling balances which they are releasing at a pitiful rate of £ 35 million per annum?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It was made quite clear at the Conference in London that any sterling release that was to be made would not be regarded by us as a contribution towards the implementation of our Plan and that that sum would be available only for the private sector. That is down in the record of the Conference, in spite of what the British Press has represented.

Shri Goenka: May I know, Sir, that in view of the fact that our agreement was only for a period of three years in regard to the interest and the various portfolios in which the sterling balances were to be invested in England, was the question of interest and the change of portfolio considered during the negotiations which the hon. the Finance Minister had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, Sir. This was a continuation of the old agreement in which questions like the opening of two accounts and the rate of interest on the total corpus of the account were left in the state in which they were and the only question discussed was the rate of further releases over the period of six years.

Shri Goenka: May I draw the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister to the letter of Mr. Chanda in which it is definitely stated that it is understood between us that the arrangement set out in this resolution will remain in force for the extended period of the agreement, namely, three years from the date of the agreement which will end ordinarily in 1951?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is right. I am not denying that. I said that many features of the old agreements were continued in the present agreement, as it was considered suitable on both sides and the only question that was discussed was the rate of releases. When the outstanding balance now is released as at the end of six years, then we shall be left with the position that there will be no problem of sterling balances as such and that what is left as a currency reserve will be open to us to invest in accordance with central banking principles and the provisions in that respect of the Reserve Bank of India Act.

Shri Goenka: May I, therefore, understand, Sir, that after a period of six years, whatever sterling balance is left will be transferred from account No. 2 to account No. 1 and it will be at the option of the Indian exchequer to invest it in any securities they like?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is my understanding, Sir. There will be no need then for two accounts and the whole of the balance left will be treated as an ordinary currency reserve to be dealt with as such reserves are usually dealt with.

Shri Goenka: May I know, Sir, if any letters have been exchanged between the hon. the Finance Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer recording this arrangement, and if so, will the hon. Finance Minister consider placing those letters on the Table of the House?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No letters have been exchanged, because that is implicit in the agreement.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that certain industrial and trade interests in India being dissatisfied with certain provisions of the Colombo Plan have raised serious criticisms against its implementation; if so what are the main criticisms levelled against it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the remark made by the Vice-Chairman of the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations, Sir A Ramaswami Mudaliar, that because of production of war materials U. K. and U. S. A. will not be able to help the implementation of the Colombo Plan and the plan will remain only a plan, has come to the notice of Government?

Mr Speaker: I do not see the connection of this with the main question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: This is connected with the Colombo Plan, Sir.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The question relates to the assistance which the sterling balance releases are likely to have on the Colombo Plan, and not the assistance which it is likely to receive from any other country.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If I understood the hon. the Finance Minister correctly, he said that there is nothing on record so far as the transactions between himself and the Chancellor of the Exchequer of U. K. are concerned—or even a mention of the continuation of the previously agreed terms. Is it not contrary to the practice followed all along in regard to discussions—formal or informal?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am afraid the hon. Member has misunderstood my answer. I said there is no correspondence in addition to what took place in the beginning in regard to the rate of interest payable on the total of the balances, as long as they are held. There was the usual exchange of letters, the gist of which was embodied by me in my statement, in regard to the nature of this third agreement. There is no further correspondence in regard to the rate of interest on the total of the balance. But the rest of the conditions in regard to release and how it is to be made, etc., are recorded in an exchange of letters.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know if the hon. Minister would place those letters on the Table of the House so that if there is a lacuna the House may point it out to the Government?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, the arrangement is that at the proper time this exchange of letters will be converted into an agreement and then the agreement, as usual, will be placed on the Table of the House. And the intention is to convert this very understanding into an agreement when it is signed as an agreement.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: When is the appointed time for the conclusion of the agreement finally?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Near about the time when the present Agreement expires.

Commonwealth Consultative Committee

*2299. **Shri Goenka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state who represented India in the Commonwealth Consultative Committee of South and South East Asia, which met in London in September, 1950?

(b) What was the nature and strength of the Delegation, including the status of the Officers from the Government of India, who assisted the Indian Members of the Consultative Committee?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The Government of India was represented by the Minister for Finance, the Governor of Reserve Bank of India and the High Commissioner for India in the U. K.

(b) The Leader and the members of the Delegation were assisted by officials from the Ministry of Finance, the Reserve Bank of India, and the Office of the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom. I lay a statement before the House giving the name and the status of the officers.

STATEMENT

List of the Officials of the Indian delegation to the Commonwealth Consultative Committee meeting held in September, 1950

Shri P. C. Bhattacharyya	Secretary of the Delegation and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance.
Shri K. N. Kaul	Financial Adviser to the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom.
Shri P. N. Haksar	Secretary for External Affairs to the High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom.
Shri Narain Parasad	Director of Monetary Research, Reserve Bank of India.
Shri H. K. D. Tandon	Superintendent, Ministry of Finance.
Shri K. N. R. Ramanujam	Research Officer. Reserve Bank of India

Loans from International Monetary Fund

*2300. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether any loans were borrowed by the Government of India from the International Monetary Fund during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No, Sir

Appointments in Ministries

*2301. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of new appointments, whether permanent or temporary, carrying a salary of Rs. 500 or more created during the current year 1950-51 (up till now) in each Ministry or Department of the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): A statement containing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 2.]

Shri Raj Kanwar: From the statement a copy of which has been supplied to me I find that excluding the Indian Audit Department for which figures are not yet available, as many as 496 posts carrying a salary of Rs. 500 or more were created during the year 1950-51. May I know what is the total cost of these new appointments? The salary is not given in the statement.

Shri Tyagi: As the salaries are not given in the statement I am not in a position to give the total cost. But I might add for the information of the House that out of these 496 posts that were created, 83 posts were of a short duration and they have been abolished during the year.

Shri Raj Kanwar: May I know the total number of appointments carrying a salary of Rs. 500 or more in the whole of the Government of India at present?

Shri Tyagi: Naturally, Sir, I will require notice for such a wide question.

Shri Raj Kanwar: May I know whether there were any unusual circumstances which led to the creation of nearly 500 posts during a single year, or is this feature a normal feature of the administration?

Shri Tyagi: There was nothing very unusual, and as and when the work arose appointments were made according to the needs of the work. For instance my friend might have noticed from the statement that in the Rehabilitation Ministry 106 additional posts of Claims Commissioners were added. Since the Act came into being Claims Commissioners were needed. So 106 posts were created. Likewise in other Ministries also.

Shri Raj Kanwar: As against this expenditure what is the saving effected under the head 'Establishment' in the various Ministries during the year?

Mr. Speaker: Is he in a position to give the lump sum figure of the economies effected?

Shri Tyagi: Sir, if the hon. Member is so anxious and would table a question I shall give it.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Has a new appointment been made of a Deputy Financial Adviser attached to the Ministry of External Affairs and, if so, why has this post been created when there is already a Joint Financial Adviser and an Under Secretary?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. She is going into an individual appointment.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know, Sir, whether the Minister has paid due attention to the 12½ per cent. representation of the scheduled castes when these appointments are made and, if so, what is their number?

Shri Tyagi: Every new post when suggested is duly considered in the first instance by the Ministries in which these posts are created and then they come to the Finance Ministry for final sanction, thus the appointments are sanctioned after due consideration.

Shri Kamath: As against the new posts, 496 in number, carrying salaries of Rs. 500 and over which have been created, how many posts of Rs. 500 or over or under have been retrenched in the same Departments?

Shri Tyagi: Retrenchment is a different question altogether. This is about appointments.

Shri Kamath: That I know

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kesava Rao: Out of these 496 appointments may I know in how many cases the persons were selected by the Union Public Service Commission and in how many they were appointed by the Ministries themselves?

Shri Tyagi: This again requires further enquiry.

Staff Cars in Ministries

*2308. **Shri Sonavane:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what is the number of staff cars at present in all the Ministries of the Government of India in use all over India and abroad?

(b) Were the staff cars introduced during the war?

(c) What is the expenditure incurred over the running and maintenance of these staff cars in the year 1950-51?

(d) Who are allowed the use of these cars?

(e) Is it absolutely essential to have these staff cars in view of the measure of economy in these days?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (c). The information is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) Yes, so far as the Headquarters of the Government of India are concerned. Information in regard to others is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(d) All officers engaged on official duty.

(e) The matter is now under consideration and it is hoped that as a measure of economy it will be possible to reduce the existing number of cars.

Shri Sonavane: May I know what is the total economy effected in this during the year?

Mr. Speaker: He said it is going to be considered now.

Shri Sonavane: I want to know whether there is any economy effected at all or not.

Shri Tyagi: As I have said, the matter is receiving the consideration of the Government. We are going to effect economies. In fact last year the total expenses came to Rs. 1,68,000 and odd. I hope next year it will be less than that.

Shri Sonavane: May I know how the work was managed prior to the introduction of these staff cars in the various Departments?

Shri Tyagi: Previous to the war there were no staff cars in use in the government headquarters. Since the war, because the various Ministries and other offices are spread over practically the whole of Delhi, staff cars were needed and they came into vogue during the war.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether it is not a fact that these staff cars have been used for purposes for which they are not meant?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is making an insinuation and that too very generally.

Shri Sonavane: Is the hon. Minister aware that these staff cars are misused by the officers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not going to allow that question.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that Dr. John Matthai, the Finance Minister who resigned last year, gave an assurance to the House that no staff car would be ordered by any Ministry unless the Finance Ministry was consulted and approved of it, and may I know whether that procedure is being followed now?

Shri Tyagi: Yes.

Shri Sidhva: How many new cars were purchased last year?

Mr. Speaker: Shall we go into all those details?

Shri Sidhva: I want to know the number of new cars purchased.

Mr. Speaker: I find half a dozen Members anxious to put questions. So I will go to the next question.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

*2309. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any recognised public or private institutions in the Centrally Administered areas, in which training is imparted in such fine arts as (i) music, both instrumental and vocal; (ii) dancing; (iii) painting; (iv) sculpture and (v) architecture;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, their number, the places where they are located and the amount of financial assistance given by Government to each such institution?

مئسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے) اور (بی) ایک اسٹیٹ مئٹ ہاؤس کی ٹیبل پر رکھ دیا گیا ہے۔

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 3.]

श्री राज कंवर : माननीय शिक्षा मंत्रीजी ने जो मुझे नक़शा दिया है उस से यह मालूम होता है कि गवर्नमेंट चार प्राइवेट इंस्टीट्यूशन्स को इमदाद दे रही है, जिन में एक को १०० रुपया सालाना, एक को २७०० रुपया, एक को १५ हज़ार रुपया और एक को ९२०० रुपया दिया जाता है। तो क्या मैं यह दरियाफ्त कर सकता कि गवर्नमेंट के पास कोई ऐसी स्कीम है कि दिल्ली में, जो कि देश की राजधानी है, एक फाइन आर्ट्स के लिये रेग्यूलर स्कूल ओपन किया जाय ?

[**Shri Raj Kanwar:** From the statement given to me by the hon. Minister it appears that Government are giving financial assistance to four such institutions to the extent of Rs. 100/- per annum to one, Rs. 2,700/- to another, Rs. 15,000/- to the third and Rs. 9,200/- per annum to the fourth institution. May I know whether Government have any scheme to start a regular school of fine arts in Delhi, the capital of the country?]

مولانا آزاد : گورنمنٹ کے پاس ایسی بہت سی اسکیمیں ہیں - لیکن فائنانشیل ڈفیکلٹیز کی وجہ سے ہاتھ بندھے ہوئے ہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** Government have many such schemes but they are bound by financial difficulties.]

Mr. Speaker: I think we better proceed to the next question.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES

*2310. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to place on the Table of the House a list of all the Co-operative Housing Societies which have so far been registered in Delhi State since 1945 showing the date of registration of each Society?

(b) Which of these Societies are of Central Government Servants and which are of those of local bodies, etc.?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A list containing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 4.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I ask whether any special facilities over and above what other persons got have been provided to these Co-operative Societies in building these houses?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: From the list it will be seen that there are 74 Co-operative House Building Societies which have been registered in Delhi State and 11 consist mainly of Government Servants. 11 Societies in all including 4 of Government Servants entirely do not require any financial help but they require assistance in getting land, and necessary enquiries in regard to giving them this land have been initiated by the Delhi local administration. Then the Delhi State Government has undertaken a scheme of rehabilitation of displaced persons in 2 places and 4 Co-operative Societies have been registered and 68 houses have in all been constructed under the scheme. I do not know what further information the hon. Member would like to have.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what proportion of the total area allotted has gone to those Co-operative Societies?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not tell the exact area that is under my Ministry, but I know that 2,000 acres of Improvement Trust land have been made over to the Ministry of Rehabilitation for rehabilitating displaced persons and I believe that some Co-operative Societies have been formed there also. Then steps have been taken to provide 600 acres of land to the refugee Co-operative House Building Society near Shakur Basti.

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी कृपा करके बतायेंगे कि ऐसी हाउसिंग कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज़ कितनी हैं जिनको रजिस्टर करवाने के लिये डिसप्लेस्ड परसन्स ने दरख्वास्त दी हो, अप्लाई किया हो ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of such Co-operative housing societies for the registration of which the displaced persons had applied?]

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : यह तो मुझे नहीं मालूम कि कितनों ने दरख्वास्त दी और कितनों की दरख्वास्तें मंजूर हुई। लेकिन लिस्ट को आप देख लें, उससे मालूम हो जायगा कि कितनों की दरख्वास्तें मंजूर हुई हैं।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I cannot say how many applications were received and how many were granted. But if the hon. Member would see the list he will know the number of applications granted.]

Shri Jnani Ram: Do Government propose to organize such Societies in other parts of Centrally Administered Areas.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: In other parts of the country that is again for the State Governments.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

OIL WELLS NEAR MANIPUR ROAD

*2311. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Naga Hills contain Oil and a party of engineers have been digging oil wells near about Manipur Road; and

(b) if so, when the actual drilling will be started, and with what prospects?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). It is understood that the Assam Oil Company have started preliminary work during the last few weeks on a test well near the place where the Manipur Road enters the Naga Hills. The Geological Survey of India advise that it is not possible to state the results of an oil well till it is drilled.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether in any way the working of the oil wells has been hampered by the Naga tribal people?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Government of India had a telegram from some Naga people protesting against the Government of Assam giving this privilege to the Oil Company to prospect this place, and we are in communication with the Government of Assam on the subject.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know what are the reasons for such complaint?

Mr. Speaker: He has said that he is investigating.

Shri Sri Prakasa: If I may say so, I had to deal with this problem when I was in Assam. The Naga people feel that the Government of Assam should have no part or lot in the Naga Hills, and that they should have an independent existence altogether. They, therefore, fear that any prospecting of this place which is included in the Naga Hills, will interfere with their autonomy. That is the reason why they are objecting to this.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether it is a fact that the Burmah Oil Company (Indian Concessions) Ltd., undertook prospecting and drilling operations in Tiru Hill and Barsala but consequently abandoned them. If so, what are the reasons?

Shri Sri Prakasa: It is a fact that the Assam Oil Company did prospect the Tiru Hill, but they abandoned it because they did not see any hope of oil there.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Is the Company now making preparations for geo-physical survey and prospecting to the east of Digboi? If so with what results?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Government of Assam have given this Company some privileges to carry on investigations and they have consulted us also. We are in communication with the Government of Assam on the subject. In the meantime the Government of Assam have been allowed at their own risk, to give the privileges in this behalf, that they may think desirable.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: Is it a fact that oil was also traced in Patharia Hills falling within the State of Assam? Is boring work being carried out there?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That region is also being surveyed.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Government of Assam has a free hand in giving these prospecting permissions without consultation of the Government of India?

Shri Sri Prakasa: No, Sir. They have not that right: they always consult us, but in this particular case we gave them authority to permit parties to carry on these investigations at their own risk.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: I want to know whether the Government has any plan to nationalize any oil that may be found out in any State?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hypothetical both ways. Next question.

CRASH OF I.A.F. PLANE NEAR POONA

*2313. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an I.A.F. plane crashed near Poona on the 7th February, 1951 and if so, under what circumstances;

(b) whether there were any occupants in it other than the pilot and how many more were killed; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute an inquiry into this accident?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (c). Yes. A Tempest aircraft crashed near Poona on the 7th February, 1951. The circumstances under which the plane crashed are not known, but are being investigated by a Court of Enquiry convened for the purpose.

(b) No. The pilot, who was the sole occupant, was the only person killed.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know how many I.A.F. planes were involved in such accidents during the last twelve months and how many persons were killed or injured?

Major-General Himatsinhji: In 1950, we had ten casualties.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether, as in the case of civilian planes, these I.A.F. planes are insured against accidents?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No; we feel that the cost is not justified.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the amount of compensation paid by Government during the last 12 months to the persons killed or injured in such accidents?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Compensation and pension are paid according to the scales laid down for each individual person in accordance with his rank.

Shri Rudrappa: Is this the same plane which was purchased last year?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I cannot give the date of purchase of the plane.

LAKE MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, CALCUTTA

*2314. **Shri B. K. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to supplementary questions put in connection with Starred Question No. 242 on the 22nd November, 1950, regarding the Lake Medical College Hospital, Calcutta and state whether it has since been decided to close down the Hospital?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for such decision?

(c) What steps have been taken to effect the closure?

(d) From which date will the hospital be closed?

(e) How will the assets be disposed of?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The Lake Medical College Hospital forms an integral part of the Lake Medical College and both the institutions will be closed down simultaneously.

(b) The College with the attached Hospital was started in 1947 for a period of five years for providing facilities to demobilised licentiate medical officers to train them for the M.B. degree and this period will be over in 1952. It is not considered desirable to prolong the life of the institution as the structures in which it is housed are all temporary, wartime ones and the cost of their maintenance is very high. The Government of West Bengal who were asked whether they would take over the institution have stated that they do not propose to do so.

(c) to (e). An officer from the Directorate General of Health Services was sent to Calcutta to discuss the steps to be taken to close down this institution with the local authorities. The closing down will be by stages and the process is expected to be completed by September, 1952. The question of disposing of the assets is under examination.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether it has been ascertained as to what would be the cost of maintaining the hospital alone, leaving out the College?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think it would be about 26 lakhs a year.

Shri B. K. Das: Is the Government aware that there has been considerable agitation in the Press and on the platform in Calcutta, over the closure of this College?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I know there has been agitation and I would have loved to continue this College and nospital. But it is impossible to do so owing to the cost of the maintenance of the building which works out to over 3 lakhs. The Government of Bengal also has written to say that they are not willing to continue the hospital, even if the College were closed down, in what they have called ramshackle buildings, which will not be an economic proposition to them.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it a fact that even now a large number of these demobbed medical men are yet to be given their graduate training?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No. All those for whom the college was originally started, that is, military personnel, have been given training. In fact, we have given training to civilian doctors as well.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it the policy of Government that not only military personnel, but also civil medical

students who have passed their medical courses, should be given graduate training and may I know whether this college was utilised for that purpose also?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am saying that civilian doctors have also been allowed facilities for training for getting their degrees.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are not large numbers of students still waiting?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, Sir. Many of the other State Governments have instituted short term courses in their colleges to give facilities to such doctors as want training.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that when the Minister visited this College a couple of years ago, she promised this college aid from the Centre for its growth and expansion, and if so, has the Minister considered whether it is possible to find a sum of three lakhs by saving on such projects as the Government Housing Factory?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has Government considered what would be the cost of capitalising that institution by making permanent repairs instead of making annual repairs?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It would cost a very great deal to build a new hospital with 750 beds.

DISPLACED GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*2315. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply to a supplementary question to Starred Question No. 409 asked on 21st February, 1950, and state:

(a) how many displaced Government employees from Sind and North West Frontier Province were confirmed upto 21st February, 1950, and how many thereafter up-to-date;

(b) how many of such employees have not been confirmed so far; and

(c) when they are likely to be confirmed?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Confirmation would await the implementation of certain Service Schemes which have either been approved or are under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: What is the policy of Government regarding these displaced persons from Sind and the North-West Frontier Province?

Shri Gadgil: The policy is that all permanent Central Government employees displaced as a result of the Partition have been found permanent appointments in India and where necessary supernumerary permanent posts have been created for them. This applies also to the former employees of Baluchistan who are now treated as Central Government employees. Government servants from Sind and the North-West Frontier Province have not been accorded that status; they were absorbed in service in the Government only on a temporary basis and not many of them have, in fact, been confirmed yet.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether they are to be confirmed when this policy is decided upon or whether they will be retrenched later on?

Shri Gadgil: As I have said, confirmation would await the implementation of certain Service Schemes which have either been approved or are under consideration. For the information of my hon. friend, I may tell him that there is first the Central Secretariat Service Re-organisation and Reinforcement Scheme, which covers the grades of Under Secretaries, Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Assistants. Then, there is the Central Secretariat Clerical Service Scheme, and the third is the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service Scheme.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is a fact that according to the Home Ministry resolution, these displaced persons from Sind and Baluchistan are not to be retrenched, until they are confirmed and if so, will the hon. Minister tell me whether that policy is followed?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot give anything like a definite answer just now.

Lala Achint Ram: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to compensate the refugee Government employees who have not been confirmed on account of conditions beyond their control?

Shri Gadgil: I do not know whether it arises out of the question. The question of compensation is linked up with a bigger question and naturally, it is for the Prime Minister to answer.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Is it a fact that after the Partition, the Government of India passed an order that all vacant posts should be filled up only by displaced persons coming from West Punjab, Sind and the North-West Frontier Province?

Shri Gadgil: I do not think that that is the exact text of the order. What I am able to say is that as far as possible, a certain percentage of vacancies was reserved for persons coming from West Punjab.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these displaced persons from Sind and the North-West Frontier Province have been retrenched and if so, what is their number?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know if there were any special reasons for discriminating against these refugees and not giving them the status of Central Government employees as was accorded to the refugees from Punjab, Baluchistan and other provinces?

Shri Gadgil: As already stated by me, those who were already in the employ of the Central Government before the Partition, were all absorbed and in some cases special posts were created. The Baluchistan employees were also considered as Central Government employees. Further than that, it was not possible to absorb them immediately. Therefore, they were considered as in temporary service. All possible efforts are being made to take them in as large a number as possible. That would naturally wait the implementation of these Service Schemes.

Mr. Speaker: The Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ARMS FOR BORDER AREAS

*2302. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether special facilities have been provided to the residents of border areas to keep arms for purposes of defence?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): The defence of the border rests on the Security Forces of Government. In order, however, to enable people to meet individual and sporadic attacks a liberal policy of licensing firearms is followed in the border area. Special training in the use of firearms has been given in one State to residents of the border; and in some cases, firearms and ammunition have been provided at Government expense.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

*2303. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the Honourable Minister; (ii) the Public Servants in his Ministry; and (iii) members of the non-official public travelling on the business of, or connected with the work of, the Ministry, in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): A statement is placed on the Table giving full details asked for regarding travelling expenses incurred in this Ministry. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 5.]

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

*2304. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the Honourable Minister; (ii) the Public Servants or Officials of his Ministry's and (iii) members of the non-official public travelling on the work of, or in connection with the work of, the Ministry, in 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 6.]

MINISTRY OF HEALTH (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

*2305. **Prof K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the Honourable Minister; (ii) the Public Servants or Officials of the Ministry; and (iii) members of the non-official public travelling on the work of, or in connection with the work of, the Ministry in 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 7.]

VISITORS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

*2306. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) which European country sent the largest number of visitors to India in 1950;

(b) whether they were tourists or they came here on business; and

(c) how many Americans and Russians came to India in 1950?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). Total *visas* granted to visitors from all European countries number 3,386. France was the European country which sent the largest number of visitors to India in 1950. 539 *visas* were granted, out of which 38 were classed as tourists and 88 as businessmen. Missionaries, technicians, dentists, artists, officials, etc. counted 413.

(c) 3,892 *visas* were granted to American visitors and 85 to Russian visitors.

EXEMPTION FROM FIRE ARMS LICENCES

***2307. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state what is the policy of Government in respect of exemption from licences for fire arms enjoyed by Taluqdars of Oudh, some retired military officers, etc.?

(b) Do Government propose to liberalise the policy of issue of licenses for firearms?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to the Press note dated the 22nd May, 1950, of which a copy was laid on the Table of the House in answer to Starred Question No. 654 asked by Shri V. K. Reddy on the 5th December, 1950. Taluqdars of Oudh have ceased to enjoy the exemption which they had previously enjoyed, with effect from the 1st August, 1950. Retired military officers as such were not entitled to exemption, nor are they exempted under the revised Schedule.

(b) The policy of the Government of India is that licences for arms for self protection should be issued as liberally as possible consistent with security against misuse.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATION ACT

***2312. Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of cases in respect of violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act that were brought to notice during the year 1950-51?

(b) In how many cases were persons concerned tried and punished?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) During the period from January, 1950 to the 15th February, 1951, for which information has been collected, 363 cases, involving alleged breaches of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act came to notice.

(b) During the same period 93 cases came up for trial resulting in punishments in 55 cases. In addition, departmental penalties were awarded under the Sea Customs Act in 34 cases.

क्षय रोग

*२३१६. **श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य :** क्या **स्वास्थ्य** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि:

(क) सन् १९५० में दिल्ली के क्षय रोग के अस्पतालों में तथा अन्य उन अस्पतालों में जहां उक्त रोग के रोगियों की चिकित्सा की सुविधायें प्राप्य हैं, क्षय रोग के कितने रोगियों को चिकित्सा के निमित दाखिल किया गया ; तथा

(ख) कितने रोगी स्थानाभाव के कारण दाखिल न हो सके ?

T. B.

[***2316. Shri B. S. Arya:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state: (a) the number of T.B. patients who were admitted during the year 1950 in the T.B. Hospitals or other hospitals of Delhi where such facilities exist; and

(b) how many of them could not get admission for lack of beds?]

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) 199 and 430 T.B. patients were admitted during 1950 in the Silver Jubilee Tuberculosis Hospital, Delhi and the New Delhi Tuberculosis Clinic respectively, thus making a total of 629.

(b) 408 patients could not get admission for lack of beds.

EXPENSES OF THE AGA KHAN

***2317. Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that money is allowed to leave this country to meet the expenses of the Agha Khan abroad; and

(b) whether any taxes including the income tax are levied on this money?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Income-tax is levied on the Indian income of the Agha Khan.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICES

***2318. Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the emoluments and work of the Director of Public Relations Offices of the All-India Radio?

(b) Are any Public Relations Officers attached to radio stations all over India and if so, what are the names of such stations?

(c) What are the emoluments of such Public Relations Officers?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Director of Public Relations draws emoluments in the scale of Rs. 800—40—1000—50—1400. His duties are:

(i) Direction of All India Radio's public relations.

(ii) Production and supervision of written and photographic publicity material, and of departmental reports.

(iii) General, administrative, financial and technical control of All India Radio journals; and

(iv) Co-ordination of publicity at all A.I.R. centres.

(b) There are five Public Relations Officers—one each at Calcutta, Nagpur, Bombay, Lucknow and the External Services Division (Delhi).

(c) The Public Relations Officers draw emoluments in the scale of Rs. 450—25—500—E.B.—30—800.

RECEPTIONISTS AND POLICEMEN LOOKING AFTER SECRETARIAT

***2319. Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of receptionists and policemen looking after the Secretariat of the Government of India for the years 1946, 1947 and 1950; and

(b) the expenditure incurred during these years?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table.

365 PSD

STATEMENT

The number of receptionists and policemen (security guards) looking after the Secretariat (North and South Block) for the years 1946, 1947 and 1950 and the expenditure incurred on pay and allowances during these years.

Year	*Receptionists*	*Guards*	*Expenditure*
1946	12	122	Rs. 1,05,538
1947	12	167	Rs. 1,16,504
1950	14	188	Rs. 1,84,541

TEMPLE OF MARKANDEYA

***2320. Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the ancient temple of *Markandeya* at Markanda in Madhya Pradesh is in a dilapidated condition?

(b) How much amount has been spent by the Archaelogical Department over the repairs of this temple in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

(c) Do Government propose to make any provision for the repairs of the *Buruj* of the temple?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) No, Sir. The temple is in a fair state of preservation.

(b) During 1948-49 the expenditure was Rs. 46. No expenditure on repairs was incurred during 1949-50.

(c) Any special repairs that may be necessary, will be carried out during the next year.

URDU SCRIPT FOR SINDHI TEXT BOOKS

***2321. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that instructions were issued to use Urdu script instead of Hindi for Sindhi Text books in Ajmer Merwara?

(b) If so, what led to change the previous decision?

(c) Was there any demand for such a change from the public?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) to (c). No such instructions were issued. A copy of the Press note embodying the latest decision of the Government to use both Arabic and Devnagri scripts is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 8.]

ZAWAR MINES

*2322. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that *Zawar* mines are the only important source of lead and zinc in the whole of India?

(b) If so, what is the output per year?

(c) Is it a private concern or a Government one?

(d) If it is a private one, for how many years have they been leased to and on what basis?

(e) Is it a fact that Silver is also extracted from lead-zinc ore and if so, what is its percentage?

(f) Are these mines taken into account in the Colombo Plan and if not, why not?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The Geological Survey of India report that although small deposits of lead ore have been recorded in various places in India, the most important are those of Zawar in Mewar, Udaipur (Rajasthan).

In regard to Zinc, the Geological Survey of India report that the only deposit so far known is the Zawar lead-zinc ores.

(b) The Geological Survey of India have figures of ore produced from this mine for the years 1946, 1947 and 1948.

These are as follows:

Year	Ore produced.
1946	3810 tons.
1947	5743 tons.
1948	6172 tons.

It is understood that the Company to whom the Government of Rajasthan have leased the mine concentrate their attention on the lead ore only and are not mining for zinc because due to lack of adequate water supply and cheap electric energy the working of a plant for concentrating zinc is not feasible.

(c) and (d). The mines belong to the Government of Rajasthan and have been leased by them to the Metal Corporation of India Ltd., for a period of 20 years. A copy of the lease is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 9.]

(e) No, Sir.

either by Government alone or in joint partnership with private enterprise.

CENTRAL STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

*2323. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the policy underlying the award of Central State Scholarships?

(b) What was the provision under this head during the financial year 1950-51 and also during the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50?

(c) What is the number of recipients of these Scholarships during the year 1950-51?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) The Central State Scholarships are awarded with a view to encouraging higher education of meritorious candidates belonging to Centrally Administered States.

(b) A sum of Rs. 19,600 for 1950-51, Rs. 42,000 for 1947-48, Rs. 60,000 for 1948-49, and Rs. 20,000 for 1949-50, has been provided.

(c) Two scholarships have been awarded during 1950-51.

ASSAULT BY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN JUBBULPORE

*2324. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 104 asked on the 21st February, 1951, regarding assault by military personnel in Jubbulpore and state what stage the trial by General Court Martial has reached?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): The trial concluded on the 23rd February, 1951. The case is, however, *sub judice* and a month is likely to elapse before it is finalised.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY

*2325. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) who signed the contract for the Government Housing Factory on behalf of Government and on what date the contract was signed;

(b) what was the authority on which the contract was signed, what is the date on which such authority was issued, and by whom it was issued; and

(c) on what date Mr. Shanmukham Chetty left England for India after concluding the sterling balances negotiations there in 1948?

the setting up of the Government Housing Factory was signed by the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Health, on the 12th October, 1948.

(b) The Agreement was signed on the basis of the decision taken by the Cabinet at their meeting held on the 20th July, 1948.

(c) 9th July, 1948.

INCOME TAX

*2326. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of income-tax assessees in India falling under each of the following categories and the amount of tax collected from each category of assessees during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50:

(i) those who pay less than Rs. 100 as tax, a year;

(ii) those who pay more than Rs. 100 but less than Rs. 500 a year;

(iii) those, who pay more than Rs. 500 but less than Rs. 1,000 a year; and

(iv) those who pay more than Rs. 1,000 a year; and

(b) what was the highest assessment of income-tax in respect of any individual assessee and the lowest assessment during the above period?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) I lay on the Table a statement showing the required information. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 10.] The classification shown therein is approximate only as it is based on the averages of demand levied on groups of income assessed in the relevant years.

(b) The information asked for is not readily available.

I.A.S. (PART B STATES)

*2327. **Shri Sarwate:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to take in the Indian Administrative Service a fixed number of the employees of Part 'B' States;

(e) what is the number of those who have been taken in so far, and from which of the Part 'B' States?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). No fixed number has been prescribed. At the time of the initial constitution of the Indian Administrative Service Cadres in the Part 'B' States, as many of the State Civil Service officers as are found suitable for the Indian Administrative Service, will be appointed up to the sanctioned strength of the Cadre. The balance of vacancies will be filled by direct recruitment or transfer of Indian Administrative Service officers from outside the States concerned. In the future maintenance of such Cadres, 25 per cent. of the senior posts shall always continue to be filled by such further promotions as may be necessary of State Civil Service officers.

(c) The Government of India on the recommendation of the Special Recruitment Board constituted for the purpose.

(d) The Minister in charge of Home Affairs is responsible for the subject of recruitment and control of the Indian Administrative Service. I am not prepared to state whether in the discharge of these duties, the Ministry of States or any other Ministry is or is not consulted.

(e) Selections are still in progress and no appointments to the Indian Administrative Service cadres in Part 'B' States have yet been made.

MUSEUM AT THE TAJ MAHAL, AGRA

*2328. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether there was a museum at the gateway to the Taj Mahal, Agra, which has since been removed therefrom?

(b) Is it a fact that the said museum contained old photos of the Taj and other relics of historical interests to the visitors to the Taj Mahal?

(c) When and where have the said relics been removed from the Taj museum?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, Sir. There was a museum which has been closed down.

to the Delhi Fort Museum, Provincial Museum, Lucknow, Allahabad Municipal Museum, Thomason College Hospital. Agra and Office of the Superintendent, Department of Archæology, Frontier Circle, Lahore.

SIBDOL TEMPLE IN ASSAM

*2329. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state how far progress has been made for replacing the Golden dome of the ancient Sibdol Temple in Sibsagar, Assam and when it is likely to be replaced?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): It is not possible to replace the Golden dome of the Sibdol Temple unless special repairs are carried out on a large scale to the temple itself. It is hoped to start the repair work early next year.

PENSION RULES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

*2330. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of liberalization of the Pension Rules of the Military personnel has long been under the active consideration of Government;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the reason for delay; and

(c) how long more Government will take to come to a final decision?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) and (b). An Inter-Departmental Committee, which was set up to review the pension rules for personnel of the Armed Forces, submitted its report on the 1st August, 1950. Its recommendations were not unanimous. They are now being examined by Government. This examination, particularly as the report was not unanimous, will necessarily take some time. It will be realised that the pensionary rules are numerous and complex and their revision involves considerable financial implications.

(c) It is hoped that the final decision on the main recommendations of the Committee will be reached within the next few months.

PENSION RULES OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*2331. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently liberalised the Pension Rules of the Government of India employees;

(b) whether it is a fact that the liberalization of the Contributory Provident Fund Rules have long been under the active consideration of Government;

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative the reason for delay in the decision; and

(d) how long more Government will take to come to a final decision in this matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Government have revised the pension rules. The main object of the new rules however was not to increase the overall pensionary benefits but to introduce, as recommended by the Central Pay Commission, some provision for the grant of gratuities and pensions to the families in the event of the death of a Government servant. The new rules provide for death gratuities and family pensions but the rates of ordinary retiring pensions have been reduced. Attention is also invited to my reply to Unstarred Question No. 127, dated the 10th March, 1951.

(b) to (d). Quite independently however of the revision of the pension rules, the question of making certain changes in the Contributory Provident Fund Rules, with a view to their liberalisation, was considered by the Government. It was decided that no such changes could be considered until the financial position improved.

FINANCIAL SET UP OF D.V.C.

*2332. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether the financial set-up of the Damodar Valley Corporation was discussed at the last meeting of the Advisory Committee of the participating States held on the 3rd March, 1951?

(b) If so, what were the points of discussions and the decisions taken on them?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). An inter-State Conference was held on the 3rd March, 1951, to discuss certain matters concerning the Damodar Valley Corporation. As regards the financial set-up of the Damodar Valley Corporation, including the status of the financial adviser, it was felt that the matter was most important and needed careful thought. It was therefore agreed that

representatives of the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar should discuss the whole subject fully with the hon. Minister of Finance, at an early date, and take decisions for future working that might eliminate all causes of complaint in this behalf.

FILMING OF AJANTA CAVES

*2333. **Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have decided to film the Ajanta Caves in Hyderabad State?

(c) If so, what is the cost involved?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Documentary films called 'The Cave Temples of India' which include shots of Ajanta and Ellora caves have been produced by the Films Division. A proposal to produce a complete film record of the frescoes and sculptures of the Ajanta and Ellora caves is under consideration.

(b) An estimate of cost is under preparation.

FILM ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*2334. **Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether the Film Enquiry Committee have submitted their report?

(b) If so, what are their main recommendations?

(c) What is the entire expenditure incurred on this Committee?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the Committee up to 28th February, 1951, was Rs. 1,74,284.

SALES TAX IN DELHI

*2335. **Shri Ram Dhani Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of deputations so far received in opposition to the introduction of sales tax in Delhi State?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No deputations have yet been received. Government have received certain representations in regard to the matter and also certain other requests for waiting on deputation.

BURMESE BUDDHISTS

*2336. **Shri Ram Dhani Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some Burmese Buddhists have arrived in Delhi?

(b) If so, what are the purposes of their arrival?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). I have no information about the arrival of any Burmese Buddhists in Delhi.

DEMARCATION OF BOUNDARY BETWEEN BIHAR AND U.P.

*2337. **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether the Commission set up for the demarcation of boundary between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh has completed its work and submitted its report?

(b) If so, do Government propose to lay the report on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No Commission has yet been set up. The Governments of the two States have started preliminary investigations as to the possibility of resolution of differences by direct negotiations and agreed conclusions. A conference of Ministers concerned is expected to be held shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

VALUE OF PAKISTAN RUPEE

138. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what loss, if any, has been suffered by the Government of India, owing to the non-recognition of the *par* value of Pakistan rupee during the period, September, 1949 to February, 1951?

(b) What items, which Government could import from Pakistan, have had to be imported from other countries during the above period?

(c) What expenditure did Government incur on the import of such items and what expenditure would have been incurred if the same items had been imported from Pakistan at the *par* value of her rupee?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). It is not possible to say whether, in terms of money value, any losses were sustained by the Government of India. The only

commodity that could have been imported on Government account from Pakistan, is foodgrains. In this respect, during the period in question, the Government of India were able to secure supplies from other sources at prices which were cheaper than those at which Pakistan Government had offered to make supplies. No loss was sustained therefore by the Government of India, on this account. The reduced volume of merchandise trade might have also caused some loss in revenue; but the amount of such loss may be regarded as negligible in view of the fact that most of the commodities normally imported from Pakistan bear no import duty and that most of the dutiable exports could find alternate markets.

Looking at the question from a wider angle, it may be said that the virtual cessation of trade between the two countries, if continued, would have imposed a considerable strain on the general economy of the country, particularly in the altered international situation.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 20th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TEXTILES (EXPORTS)

*2338. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have shelved the proposal for drastic cut in cotton textile exports of the country for the year 1951-52; and

(b) if so, whether any overall target for the year 1951-52 has been tentatively fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The fact is that Government have taken steps to restrict exports of cotton textiles.

(b) The tentative figure is 800 million yards.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, what do Government propose to do in respect of the contracts already made?

Shri Karmarkar: Our attempt at the present moment is to stagger the exports to make them more gradual than they would otherwise have been.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How long are these contracts expected to continue?

Shri Karmarkar: The usual practice both in respect of imports and exports have been that firm contracts supported by letters of credit have been usually honoured. In this particular case, how many contracts there are and to what extent they will continue and what is the position etc, I should like to have notice. Different contracts will be for different periods.

Shri Ghule: May I know how much quota out of this 800 million yards would be coarse and medium type of cloth and how much fine and superfine type of cloth?

Shri Karmarkar: A quota of 100 million yards of coarse and medium cloth in soft currency areas and 20 million yards in hard currency areas has been fixed for export in 1951. The rest will be fine and superfine.

Shri Sondhi: What is the quantity which has been already exported out of this 800 million yards?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got that figure ready with me, Sir.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether any handloom cloth is exported? If so, what is the quantity exported?

Shri Karmarkar: I shall require notice. Handloom cloth is certainly encouraged for export.

Shri B. K. Das: What is the position of yarn? Will it be exported during this year?

Shri Karmarkar: It does not arise out of this but, however, if it does, as my hon. friend knows, all export of yarn has been stopped.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know the allocation made to dollar and non-dollar areas?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said a quota of 100 million yards of coarse and medium cloth for soft currency areas and 20 million yards in hard currency areas has been fixed for export for the period January to June 1951. As regards fine and superfine cloth it is open to all areas.

MONEY RECOVERED FROM NEPALESE NATIONALS

*2339. **Prof S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a sum of about Rs. 35 lakhs recovered in currency notes and Nepalese silver coins from some Nepal nationals at

Willingdon Airport on the 13th November, 1950 at 7-20 P.M. is still lying with Government?

(b) If so, what do Government propose to do with it?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are taking steps to return the amount to the Government of Nepal.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know why was it deemed necessary to conduct the search of the plane in question?

Dr. Keskar: The details of the search etc. were explained on the floor of the House in reply to question No. 2135 delivered on the 12th March.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: No details were given on that date. May I know whether the search was conducted at the request of the Government of Nepal?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir.

Thakur Lal Singh: May I know whether the Government of Nepal informed this Government that treasuries other than Birgunj were also looted?

Dr. Keskar: We have been informed that some other places were also looted.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I ask whether Government have been able to ascertain the ownership of the money recovered?

Dr. Keskar: Government has tried its best to find out the ownership of this sum and that is probably the reason why such a delay has occurred in returning it.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know what is the ownership of the plane which carried this money?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice of the question.

War Reparations

***2340. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what articles have been received as War Reparations during the year 1950?

(b) What is the staff employed in Germany and other places in connection with India's Reparation claims?

(c) Are such establishments in foreign countries likely to be closed?

(d) What is the total amount of Reparation ~ticles now lying with us?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) In all, 1,285 items of general purpose machine tools, workshop equipment and chemical plants were received from Germany as India's share of war reparations during 1950.

(b) and (c). The Indian Reparations Inspectorate at Berlin was closed on the 15th January 1951. A statement showing the existing staff of the Reparations Directorate at Calcutta is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 11.]

(d) Out of the total 10,430 items of machinery allocated to India, only 3,074 items still remain to be disposed of. 7,356 machines and plants have already been allocated or reserved for allocation to various priority indentors.

Shri Mahtab: Sir, there is another question No. 2360 relating to the same subject.

Mr. Speaker: That is by Mr. Gopinath Singh.

(*Shri Gopinath Singh was absent*).

We cannot take it up unfortunately.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated in reply to parts (b) and (c) that the Berlin Office has been closed. May I ask if there is any other office in Europe, namely, in Belgium and whether that office in Antwerp has been closed? Am I to understand that no other staff exists in foreign countries?

Shri Mahtab: There is no office in Belgium. The Charge d'Affaires is a Member of that organization. Therefore there is no separate organization for this anywhere.

Shri Sidhva: Was no staff posted on behalf of Berlin in Antwerp? May I know whether it still exists?

Shri Mahtab: It is not existing at present.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of the answer to part (d); the hon. Minister stated that 3,074 items still remain to be disposed of and 7,356 machines and plants have already been allocated. How many have been allocated to individual commercial firms and Governments and what is the total value? What are the items under priority indentors? Are they Government or commercial firms or individuals?

Shri Mahtab: The very definition of priority indentor is that it is the Central Government and State Governments. Priority indentors can never be commercial firms. Allocation to priority indentors means that they have been allocated to various Departments of the Central Government, particularly the Defence, Railway and Communications Ministries.

Shri Sidhva: How much has been credited to the Government of India from the sale and disposal of these reparations?

Shri Mahtab: The value of the amounts already realized from our own Departments—Government Departments—is Rs. 22,55,133. The total estimated value still to be realized is Rs. 3 crores approximately, and subject to final acceptance of disposal prices by Defence and Transport Ministries to the tune of Rs. 95 lakhs.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this amount is credited to the General Fund of the Government of India or whether it goes to some other credit?

Shri Mahtab: There is no other credit. It goes to the General Funds.

Shri Lakshmanan: Are there still outstanding claims between India and Pakistan in the sharing of these reparations?

Shri Mahtab: Yes. There are some outstanding issues with regard to that and that is being dealt with by the Partition Secretariat.

Shri Sondhi: Arising out of answer given to part (b) and (c), what is the total amount we have spent so far on our Berlin Office?

Shri Mahtab: Those figures are being collected. I am sorry, I cannot give the exact figures.

Shri Poonacha: Is it a fact that quite a large number of these machines could not be worked here in India either for want of technical personnel to run these machines or because of the fact that quite a number of essential parts of these machines are missing?

Shri Mahtab: As the hon. Member must have known, out of the 10,000 and odd items 7000 and odd have already been allocated. There is no question of these machines being not used here.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that none of these machines has been given to any private commercial firms?

Shri Mahtab: I think, not.

Shri Kamath: Was the Berlin office closed before or after India's termination of state of war with Germany?

Shri Mahtab: That I cannot say; the exact date, I do not know.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know under what Head this amount is credited?

Mr. Speaker: This could be ascertained from the accounts.

Shri Sidhva: We do not find any entry in the Budget. I wanted to know under what Head this is credited?

Shri Mahtab: The expenditure on items 1 to 3, Reparation Staff at Calcutta is debitable to Head of Account No. 57 Miscellaneous, Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges. The other items of expenditure detailed above are debited to Suspense Account in connection with expenditure on German Reparations machines—P. Deposits and advances. Receipts from the sale of these machines are credited to Suspense Account.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Right of Asylum of Diplomatic Envoys

***2341. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Government of India recognize the so-called right of asylum *Franchise du quartier* of diplomatic envoys?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The Government of India accept the well-established principles of international law relating to the inviolability of the person of a diplomatic envoy of his office and residential premises. It is by virtue of this privilege that an envoy is in a position to give asylum to a person. By itself giving of asylum is not recognized as a right.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that the International Court of Justice has recently decided against the Columbian Embassy when they gave shelter to the Peruvian leader Victor de La Torre may I know whether our Government will fall in line with that decision?

Dr. Keskar: With regard to this question of giving asylum, which is more a question of international jurisprudence, no one country is following one particular line. In fact, for example, countries like the United States do not recognise the right of asylum as it is recognised in some other countries. If a question will arise for our country, we might take a decision. But, what I wanted to

indicate was that countries are at liberty to vary this principle of right of asylum to some extent. It is not necessary that all countries should abide by a judgment of the International Court of Justice in any particular matter.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I ask one question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: It is no use discussing this question. We will go to the next question.

GRAM FROM PAKISTAN

*2342. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to introduce unrestricted imports of gram from Pakistan?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The import of gram from all soft currency countries including Pakistan is now under the O.G.L.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether at any time in this year or the last year the import of gram was prohibited or restricted?

Shri Karmarkar: In September 1950, Pakistan was excluded from the scope of the O.G.L. However, we permitted gram to come in if it came in.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that we recognised the Pakistan Rupee rate very recently, may I know how these gram imports were paid before the recognition of the Pakistan Rupee?

Shri Karmarkar: Am I to understand the hon. Member to ask, when we stopped the O.G.L. in respect of gram, what arrangements were made to allow gram?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How were payments made?

Shri Karmarkar: Payment was arranged by the parties in their own way.

Shri Goenka: When the parties wanted to make their own arrangements for the payment of goods from Pakistan, may I know why other people were refused permits to import other materials which were necessary for this country and which the Industries Department wanted to be imported?

Shri Karmarkar: I may tell my hon. friend that every case is considered strictly on merits, and every case has been considered on merits.

Shri Ghule: May I know the quantity imported from Pakistan under the O.G.L?

Shri Karmarkar: It is yet too early to say; I want notice.

Shri T. N. Singh: In respect of these payments by the parties for imported gram, may I know whether Government have any knowledge if any of these payments have been made out of the unaccounted for balances held by the parties in Pakistan?

Shri Karmarkar: I think my hon. friend knows that in spite of the trade barrier, there has not been a perfect barrier between people in Pakistan and people here. There are instances of residents here having assets in Pakistan which they are entitled to operate upon as a matter of credit. In exchange for that, they have asked for some imports from Pakistan, not exactly in the form of money, but in the form of goods. That type of relations had not ceased completely even during the trade cessation period: not because we have permitted the parties to import goods as against their assets.

Shri Goenka: May I know whether merit means the influence of individual parties on the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

FOREIGN GUESTS

*2343. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred by the Government of India on the reception of and hospitality to foreign guests in the year 1950?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): The expenditure incurred on the reception of and hospitality to foreign guests during 1950 from the Hospitality Fund of the Government of India was Rs. 86,726 (Rupees eighty six thousand seven hundred and twenty six only).

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether there has been any increase in the year 1950 over the expenditure incurred in the year 1949?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know **lal Nehru):** The figures are: in 1949 the total expenditure was Rs. 1,92,923; this year, as my colleague has stated, Rs. 86,000. It is considerably less than half of the previous year's.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawahar- whether the expenditure incurred on foreign guests by the different Ministries such as External Affairs, Food and Agriculture, Health, etc., are disbursed through the Ministries concerned, or through a common central fund?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is rather difficult to say; I speak subject to correction. Part of it is done through a common fund; but part of it is done separately. I have got, as a matter of fact, the figures before me of each Ministry's separate expenditure.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government propose to start a central fund for meeting this expenditure?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The position is this. Each Ministry spends separately. But, certain forms of hospitality are general and they come out of the joint fund.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether these hospitality funds with the various Ministries are audited annually?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I presume all funds are audited.

NEW TOWN IN KANDLA

*2344. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the total amount paid to the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation for establishing a new town in Kandla (Kutch)?

(b) How much amount has the said corporation spent so far towards the development of the town?

(c) What is the progress made in the construction of the town?

(d) How many houses have been so far built?

(e) How many have been occupied and are all the occupants displaced persons?

(f) Is there any industry, small or large, opened in this colony?

(g) Is any repayment of the loan to be made?

(h) What is the rate of interest charged on the loan?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Rs. 110 lakhs.

(b) Approximately Rs. 90 lakhs on construction of houses and Rs. 45 lakhs on other works of development of the town.

(c) A note is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 12.]

(d) 2,395.

(e) Nearly all the houses are occupied. About 400 have been temporarily allotted to Government servants engaged in port development schemes.

(f) Yes. Some industries have been started by the Corporation and displaced persons.

(g) Yes.

(h) 3¼ per cent.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, arising out of the answers to parts (d) and (e). The hon. Minister has stated that out of 2395 houses constructed, 400 have been allotted to government servants and the rest to displaced persons. May I know if these displaced persons consist of only *Asali* Sindhis or do they include also the Kutchis who reside in Kutch?

Shri A. P. Jain: Among displaced persons, I believe the overwhelming majority consists of Sindhis.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Kutch Hazrat Association made a representation to the hon. Minister about their having asked the Corporation for houses and their getting a reply that the houses will not be allotted unless they purchased shares money? Has the hon. Minister's attention been drawn to this representation of the 6th December, 1950 and if so what has been the result?

Shri A. P. Jain: I don't remember to have seen such a representation. But I know that houses are being allotted to persons who have not purchased shares with the Corporation. Of course house sites are being allotted to persons who have purchased shares of the Corporation and not to others.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that 4,000 Kutchis who came from Karachi as refugees applied on the 6th December, of which I have a copy with me and.....

Mr. Speaker: I think it will be better if the hon. Member takes up this matter individually with the hon. Minister.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, I have taken up this question and...

Mr. Speaker: May be. But the Question-hour is to be utilised for the purpose of getting information of general importance and not in respect of individual grievances.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, this is not an individual question as many as 4,000 persons.....

Mr. Speaker: May be, but I will not allow it.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, I want to put another question.

In part (f) of the answer it is stated that some industries have been started. May I know how many Kutch refugees have been employed in these industries and how many of them are Sindhis?

Shri A. P. Jain: We do not keep separate figures. We have figures relating to the persons who have been given houses in Gandhidham. If my hon. friend wants to know the types of industries carried on there, I will certainly give him their names.

Shri Sidhva: Sir are those employed in these industries mostly Kutch Sindhis or do they include other refugees from Sind?

Shri A. P. Jain: This scheme is not confined to any particular set of persons. We have advanced some loan to the Corporation but the general management of the Gandhidham is in the hands of the Corporation. We can write to them, advise them and give them guidance, but we cannot order the Corporation to do a particular thing unless it comes under the terms of agreement.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि कंडला के निर्वासित भाइयों को कर्ज़ की तौर पर कुल कितना रुपया दिया गया था और बड़ी से बड़ी रकम कर्ज़ की कितनी है और छोटी से छोटी रक़म कर्ज़ की कितनी है?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the total amount that has been paid to the displaced persons at Kandla in the form of loans. What are the maximum and the minimum amounts of such loans?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : कुल कर्ज़ा ८६,७०० रुपया दिया गया है और यह १३९ आदमियों को दिया गया है। यह आंकड़े ३१ दिसम्बर सन् १९५० तक के हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The total amount of loans comes to 86,700 rupees, and this has been granted to 139 persons. These figures are up to 31st December, 1950.]

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Sir, what are the industries that have been opened there and what is the number of refugees employed in these industries?

Shri A. P. Jain: There are two types of industries opened there. One type of industries which have been opened by the Corporation consist of the manufacture of hollow cement blocs, spun cement pipes, saw-mills, carpentry shops, mechanical workshops etc. etc. The other industries are started by the displaced persons and they are such as grinding mills, oil pressing mills, lime-kilns, tile making factory, smitheries, handloom weaving, ice factories and aerated-water factories.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether this Corporation is a statutory body and what is the control of the Government over the finances of this Corporation?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is a registered company and Government have no control over the finances of the Corporation. The company has been floated with a capital of Rs. 2 crores and Government have subscribed Rs. 50 lakhs. Government nominates the Directors according to the share capital. There is a land section attached to this Corporation and there the Government has a majority of one and therefore the controlling voice.

Shri Shiva Rao: Sir, are there any statistics to show the cost of buildings in Kandla? How does the cost compare with that in similar townships elsewhere?

Shri A. P. Jain: The stipulation was that 4,000 houses will cost Rs. 1,10,00,000. Comparatively, I believe Kandla is constructing houses cheaper than, say Bombay and at least a good number of other States.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister said that Government have subscribed Rs. 50 lakhs for this Corporation. What is the amount subscribed by private persons? Have Government given any loan also to this Corporation?

Shri A. P. Jain: I cannot give the exact amount of the capital subscribed privately. Roughly speaking it is about Rs. 1 crore. Government have given a loan of Rs. 1,10,00,000 for the 4,000 houses. The Corporation has also asked for a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs for houses to be built on lands allotted to private persons.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीम मंत्री जी से जो मैंने पहले सवाल किया था, उसका जवाब देने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो

कर्ज़ दिये गये हैं, उनमें बड़ी से बड़ी रकम कर्ज़ की कितनी है और छोटी से छोटी रक़म कितनी है?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to give reply to my original question as to what were the maximum and minimum amounts of the loans that have been granted?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं उसके ठीक ठीक आंकड़े तो नहीं दे सकता, लेकिन ज्यादा से ज्यादा रकम कर्ज़ की जो हो सकती है, वह पांच हज़ार की हो सकती है, छोटी से छोटी के लिये मैं नहीं कह सकता।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I am unable to give you the exact figures. But the maximum of such amounts can be five thousand. About the minimum I cannot say anything.]

Shri Sidhva: Sir, is it a fact that when the hon. Minister went to Kutch Mandvi he promised to pay a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs to the refugees of Kutch Hazrat Association and if so, what amount has actually been paid to this Association?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, I never promised nor gave any amount to any Association. I said some money will be given to the Chief Commissioner for helping the displaced persons and that money, so far as I remember, has been paid.

Target Achieving Committee

***2345. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any Target Achieving Committee was appointed during the year, 1950-51, if so, how many of them and in respect of which industries?

(b) What was the total amount of expenditure incurred on such a Committee and how far have the efforts of such committees been successful in stimulating production?

(c) What was the quantity and value of production in the various industries during the six months preceding the appointment of the Target Achieving Committee and the total quantity and value of production during the six months following the said appointment?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 13.]

It is not proposed to constitute similar committees for 1951, because the Development Committee for Industries set up on 1st December 1950 has been charged, *inter alia*, with the task of fixing targets, where necessary.

(b) No expenditure was incurred on these committees. As a result of the efforts of these Committees, targets fixed in respect of certain industries have not only been achieved but exceeded in some cases. There was, however, a short-fall in the production of Sulphuric acid, Superphosphates, Power-alcohol and Plywood.

(c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 13.]

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Sir, which of the Target Achieving Committees are still working and which have been closed?

Shri Mahtab: No Target Committee is working at present, because the work has been entrusted to the Developing Committee recently set up in December last.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Sir, may I know whether labour is included in any of these new Development Committees?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Fertilisers for Tea Industry

***2346. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of the tea industry in the north-east and southern regions of the Indian Union in respect of the chemical fertilisers like the sulphate of ammonia; and

(b) what was the total quantity of such fertilizers supplied to the industry during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The total normal annual requirement of the tea industry in respect of chemical fertilisers is 50,000 tons for North-East India and 8,000 tons for South India.

(b) The total quantity of chemical fertilisers supplied to the tea industry during the year 1947-48 and 1948-49, for the period from July to June, was 34,850 tons and 36,358 tons respectively and for 1950 it was 58,000 tons.

Shri Chaliha: Sir, may I know whether the Sindri factory is going to be made over to a private management as was announced the other day?

Shri Karmarkar: I think my hon. friend may table a question to the proper quarter.

Shri Lakshmanan: Sir, may I know whether there is any distinction observed in the matter of supplying fertilizers to food crops and money or cash crops? Is there any preference shown to money crops?

Shri Karmarkar: No, both classes are equally important.

Shri Barman: Sir, is it a fact that the fertilizer-mixing factories simply mix ingredients and no organic manures are mixed?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I would require notice.

TYRES AND TUBES

*2347. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity and value of tyres and tubes imported into India from the hard and soft currency regions during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) What is the quantity and value of tyres and tubes manufactured in India during the above three years?

(c) By which time is India expected to be self-sufficient in respect of these articles?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 14.]

(c) India is self-sufficient in regard to the requirements of Automobile and Bicycle tyres and tubes. Efforts are being made to secure self sufficiency as far as possible in respect of special types of tyres and tubes used for tractors, earth movers and graders.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Sir, there are two other questions relating to the manufacture of rubber tyres. They are questions No. 2393 and 2394 in my name and they may also be answered along with the question just now answered.

Shri Karmarkar: We have no objection, Sir.

PRICE OF TYRES

*2393. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the answers given to starred question No. 1785 on 27th February 1951 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantities of rubber imported into India during the years, 1949-50 and 1950-51 (up to 31st December 1950) were 1200 tons and 1005 tons respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that the average price of rubber imported into India during these years were Rs. 1,420 and Rs. 3,517 per ton;

(c) whether it is a fact that 525 out of 1005 tons imported in the calendar year 1950, were imported during the early part of the year at prices far below the present prices;

(d) whether it is a fact that tyre manufacturers in India do not maintain large stocks of rubber; and

(e) whether the increased price of approximately Rs. 15,00,000 paid for imported rubber in the year 1950 by the manufacturers warrants the increase of tyre prices by Rs. 150,00,000 and if so, how?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (d). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 15.]

(e) The increase in tyre prices was not given on the basis of the difference in the value of imports of raw rubber during the years 1949 and 1950. It was based on the increase in the prices of rubber expected to be imported by the manufacturers during the year 1951.

COST OF MANUFACTURING RUBBER TYRES

*2394. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the answers given to starred question No. 1785 on 27th February 1951 and state:

(a) whether there has been an inquiry into the cost of manufacturing rubber tyres in India at any time and if so, when and by what agency;

(b) the quantities of imported and indigenous rubber made available to manufacturers of tyres during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the prices paid for imported and Indian rubber during these three years;

(d) the size of rubber stocks held by the manufacturers of tyres in India during these three years;

(e) the prices of tyres manufactured in India during these three years as compared with prices of similar tyres manufactured outside India; and

(f) the quantity of tyres made in India purchased by or for Government and the quantity available to private consumers during the three years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and the respective prices charged for them?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 16.]

(f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether Government propose to institute an enquiry into the cost of the manufacture of rubber tyres in India?

Shri Mahtab: We discussed that yesterday afternoon and I said that when the Tariff Board's recommendations would be received with regard to the price of rubber, then alone a case for investigation into the cost of the manufacture of rubber tyres would arise.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Has there been a rise in the price of these imported tyres recently? If so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Yes, there has been a rise in the prices.

Mr. Speaker: He wanted, to what extent?

Shri Karmarkar: I want notice.

Shri Poonacha: In view of the fact that a fifteen per cent. increase has been agreed to by the Government so far as tyres and tubes are concerned in anticipation of the manufacturers importing about 5,000 tons of rubber from outside, what would happen if the importers do not import that quantity as they did in the past with the result that the public are charged for that?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a hypothetical question at this stage. The hon. Member is assuming something.

Shri Poonacha: What would be the position if the importers do not import the expected quantity of rubber?

An Hon. Member: It is the same question.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Who prepared the estimates of the quantities of rubber that are to be imported in 1951 and what is the basis on which those estimates have been made?

Shri Mahtab: The basis is the capacity of the manufacturing firms. If the rubber is not imported then the firms will cease to function, because that quantity of rubber is necessary to meet the manufacturing capacity of the firms. That can be easily ascertained as it is done in the case of other industries.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that licences issued for the import of tubes and tyres during the latter half of 1949 and 1950 remained unutilised and the goods were not imported, because the list attached to the licences relating to size and varieties exhausted all articles that could be used in India?

Shri Mahtab: I shall have to look into that: the position is not clear.

Shri Poonacha: How do the prices of Indian-manufactured tyres compare with those imported from abroad?

Shri Mahtab: Our prices compare favourably with the prices of imported tyres.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether the present terms of reference of the enquiry by the Tariff Board concerning rubber prices include any reference to the cost of manufacturing rubber tyres in India?

Shri Mahtab: It has no relation with that. Probably the hon. Member is not aware of one fact, that rubber constitutes only 26.6 per cent. of the manufactured tyre. Therefore the cost of the manufacture of tyres will depend on various other materials besides rubber.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether Government have any idea of the cost of the other components that go into the manufacture of tyres and whether Government have carried out any investigation into the price structure of those commodities?

Shri Mahtab: As I explained yesterday all these matters have been investigated.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the hon. Minister aware that an ordinary tyre 34×7 used for commercial vehicles which ought to be sold at Rs. 383 is now selling at Rs. 500 and more?

Shri Mahtab: It may be the case. The fact is that except in the case of cycle tubes and tyres the prices of other tyres and tubes are not controlled.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Sir, there is also another question in my name relating to the rubber industry, Q. No. 2398, which may be answered in this connection.

REMOVAL OF CONTROLS ON RUBBER

*2398. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of Mr. A. V. Thomas, Chairman of the Indian Rubber Board on 21st February, 1951, at Bombay (according to P.T.I.) that the rubber factories in India may have to be closed down due to rubber shortage in India;

(b) what were the Tariff Board's recommendations as a result of their recent enquiry conducted into the Rubber Industry;

(c) whether it is the intention of Government to remove all controls on raw rubber; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to alleviate the situation arising out of rubber shortage?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of the Tariff Board has not yet been received by Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Please see answer to part (a) of starred question No. 1649 answered on 22nd February, 1951.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN ANDAMANS

*2348. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agriculturists, artisans, professionals and businessmen among displaced persons rehabilitated in Andamans;

(b) the number amongst them who have become self-supporting by this time; and

(c) the amount spent on them and the amount of grants of loans distributed amongst them so far?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 230 families have been settled as agriculturists and 7 as artisans.

(b) All of them have become self-supporting.

(c) Total amount spent.—Rs. 11,13,000.

Grants.—Rs. 8,94,000.

Loans.—Rs. 1,02,000.

Shri Barman: Does the figure given by the Minister include the last batch which, according to newspaper reports, left on Saturday last?

Shri A. P. Jain: No: it does not include the expenditure on those persons, because the question was about the persons who have been rehabilitated. These persons have been sent but not rehabilitated yet.

Shri Barman: Is the hon. Minister in a position to say what was the number of families which were sent last and if so, how many families and of what profession?

Shri A. P. Jain: My latest information is that the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans wanted eighty-three non-agriculturist families to be sent there and 47 have already reached the Andaman islands.

Shri Barman: In order to rationalise our man power and in order to exploit the natural resources of the islands, do Government propose to conduct any survey of the natural resources there, so that we can rationalise our man power there and give the people gainful occupation?

Shri A. P. Jain: Government has conducted several surveys there and there is a scheme under consideration according to which 6,000 families of displaced persons are proposed to be settled in the Andamans in another five years.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it a fact that certain families in the name of displaced persons reached the Andamans and returned back after taking the benefits?

Shri A. P. Jain: Some displaced persons did go to the Andamans and then expressed a desire to come back. We could not retain them there and they were brought back. Their numbers are 21 families in the first and second batches and 16 families in the third and fourth batches. The last sixteen families came back on the ground that conditions in East Bengal were far improved and so they wanted to go back there.

Shri B. K. Das: Are we to understand that the choice of persons of different categories is made on the requisition of the authorities there or the Government follows a definite plan in the matter of their choice?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Chief Commissioner indicates the needs there. He knows the area of land on which the displaced persons can be rehabilitated. He also knows the scope for the rehabilitation of businessmen and artisans and then he sends us the requisition. We invite applications and out of them those who are considered to be most fit are sent to the Andamans.

Shri Barman: Since vast forest resources, more than half, of the Andamans are lying unexploited up till now, has that fact been taken into consideration in choosing families which will be most required there, such as artisans and carpenters?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes.

Shri A. C. Guha: At what rate is the Government intending to send these refugees—by batches of how many families and at what intervals?

Shri A. P. Jain: The scheme is being worked out. It has not been finalised as yet. It is not possible for me to give the figures asked for by the hon. Member.

PRODUCTION OF COTTON TEXTILES

*2349. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the Statewise production of cotton textiles during 1949-50 and 1950-51;

(b) whether there is an increase in the annual production of textile mills and the number of workers employed in this industry; and

(c) how many mandays were lost in this industry on account of strikes and lockouts (separately) in the last six months?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab) (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 17.]

(b) There has been no increase either in production or in the number of workers employed.

(c) It is not possible to give separate figures for strikes and lockouts as it is difficult to separate out figures relating to strikes and lockouts because lockouts are often followed by strikes and *vice versa*. The number of mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts during the period July to November, 1950, is 96,54,400. Figures for subsequent months are not available.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : कपड़े की मिलों में कपड़े का डेफिसिट पारसाल की बनिस्बत इस साल कम रहा या ज्यादा रहा ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Has the deficit in cloth mills increased or decreased during this year as compared to the last year?]

Shri Mahtab: I don't know to which year the hon. Member is referring, but as I have said there has been practically no increase in production. That is to say, production has remained steady so far.

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : कपड़े की मिलों में इस साल पिछले सालों से स्ट्राइक कम हुए या ज्यादा ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Has the number of strikes in cloth mills increased or decreased this year as compared to the last year?]

श्री महताब : अभी जैसा मालूम होता है कपड़े का प्रोडक्शन इस साल बढ़ेगा, लेकिन सब फिगर्स इस वक्त मेरे पास नहीं हैं।

[**Shri Mahtab:** So far it seems that the cloth production would increase this year; but I have not got all the figures with me at this time.]

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : कपड़ा मिलों का ऐवरेज प्राफिट इस वर्ष पिछले सालों से कितना अधिक रहा ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** By how much has the average profits of the cloth mills increased during this year as compared to the last few years?]

Shri Mahtab: That I cannot say, but if the price of cloth is taken into account the same rate of profit is allowed as has been settled after the examination of the Tariff Board's report.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any particular reason for the difficulty of the common man in getting cloth today when the Minister specially mentioned that this year there would be no difficulty in the production of more cloth?

Shri Mahtab: As I said, it was because of the large export which was allowed last year. Had there been no such export there would have been no shortage.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Is it a fact that production has increased since January this year? If so, why don't we find any cotton textiles in Delhi proper?

Shri Mahtab: Production has increased, as I gave the House the figures the other day, since January and it is steadily increasing. And accordingly the supply has also increased since January, that is to say supply in the month of January was better than that in the month of December or November.

Biri INDUSTRY WORKERS (MINIMUM WAGES)

*2350. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have fixed the rate of wages under the

Minimum Wages Act for Labour in *Biri* Industry; and

(b) if so, what are the wages fixed by the different States?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Madras, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Ajmer.

(b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 18.]

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know how many of the States have given effect to this Act?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I said, Bihar, Madras, Madhya Pradesh and Ajmer. As regards the other States, the number of employees in the States of Punjab, Assam, Delhi and Coorg and in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is less than 1000 and so the Act is not to be applied in those States. In Bombay and Uttar Pradesh they were finalising the thing and I think they must have finalised it by the 15th of this month.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलायेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में बीड़ी उद्योग के सिवा और कौन से ऐसे धंधे हैं जिन पर सरकार ने कम से कम मजदूरी निश्चित की है?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister of Labour be pleased to state the names of those industries except the "Bidi" Industry for which Government have fixed the minimum wages for the workers in Madhya Pradesh?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : यदि सदस्य महोदय मिनिमम वेजेज ऐक्ट देखेंगे तो उसमें पायेंगे कि कई एक ऐसे उद्योग हैं जिनकी मिनिमम वेज निश्चित करनी है। मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने उनमें न्यूनतम वेतन निर्धारित कर दिया है।

[**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** If the hon. Member will take the trouble of studying the Minimum Wages Act, he will find that there are several such industries where minimum wages for workers have to be fixed. The Madhya Pradesh Government have fixed the minimum wages for workers in respect of these industries.]

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: What is the basis of fixation of minimum wages in relation to production?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I will refer my hon. friend to the sections of the Minimum Wages Act.

STATE MINES

***2351. Shri Jnani Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether the Indian Mining and Construction Company, Bermo, have entered into any agreement with the Government of India for working out the State mines?

(b) If so, what are the terms of the agreement?

(c) What privileges have been granted to the foreign nationals employed in the Company?

(d) How many Indians are holding Administrative posts of the Company?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 19.]

(d) According to the Company, there are thirteen Indian nationals in administrative posts, such as Cost Accountant, Head Store keeper, Labour and Welfare Officer etc., but I do not think these can be called administrative posts.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know what is the contribution of Government to the share capital?

Shri Gadgil: The issued capital of the company is Rs. 45 lakhs made up as under:

Share capital contributed by Messrs. Sir Lindsay Parkinson and Co. Ltd.—Rs. 23 lakhs.

Contributed by Government of India.—Rs. 22 lakhs.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know what profit was received by the Government last year?

Shri Gadgil: All I can say is that the Company has been working satisfactorily. As regards the exact amount of profit, I require notice.

Shri Jnani Ram: Is it the policy of the Company to exclude Indians from administrative posts?

Shri Gadgil: No, Sir, on the contrary I may be permitted to state that 30 Indian candidates have been sent to England to undergo training and as soon as they come they will replace the foreign personnel which numbers about 16.

COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

***2352. Shri R. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether India is a member of the Commonwealth Economic Committee?

(b) What was the import of India in the years 1949 and 1950 respectively under this Committee's estimates?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the figures of total imports into India as given by the Commonwealth Economic Committee in their "Memorandum on Commonwealth Trade in 1949" which was published in December 1950. If so, the figure for the fiscal year 1949-50 is Rs. 6,017 million. The corresponding figure for fiscal year 1950-51 is not mentioned in the Memorandum.

HOUSING SCHEMES IN STATES

***2353. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes have been drawn up for providing housing accommodation to squatters in different States; and

(b) if so, when and how they will be implemented?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). As a result of the Rehabilitation Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in December, last, the State Governments have been requested to make provision for all those who are without proper shelter during the course of the next financial year. It was recognised that where the size of the problem was large, the period for the completion of the programme may be longer.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether it was decided in that Conference to prepare a scheme for the different States in the ensuing year?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes. Different States have been requested to intimate their housing requirements for these squatters and also the amount of construction which they can do during the next financial year. We shall allocate money to the different States after we receive those estimates.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any indication was given by the different States as to the financial implications of those schemes?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes. Some indication was given, but final figures have not been worked out.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any construction programme has been drawn up for Delhi States?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the cost of that programme and how many squatters would be provided for by it?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is estimated that Delhi will require about 50,000 houses and shops for these squatters. During 1951-52, we hope to tackle about 50 per cent. of this number.

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि मुख्तलिफ़ स्टेट्स में ऐसे स्क्वैटर्स की संख्या कितनी है जिन के लिये मकान, दूकान, लोन और कोटा की ज़रूरत है?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of such squatters in the different States who are in need of houses, shops and the quota?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं ने भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों से इसकी जो जानकारी की है उससे ऐसा पता लगा है कि ५६,००० मकानों की जरूरत है और १०,००० दूकानों की जरूरत है लेकिन अभी पूरी तौर से निश्चय नहीं हुआ है। इन दोनों आंकड़ों से ऐसा अन्दाज़ा है कि ढ़ाई या पौने तीन लाख आदमी ऐसे हैं जिनको स्क्वैटर्स कहा जा सकता है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** From the information that I have gathered from the various states, I have come to know that 56,000 houses and 10,000 shops are required for this purpose. But it has not been finally decided upon as yet. Nevertheless it can be estimated from these figures that there are two and a half lakhs or quarter to three lakhs of such people who can be called squatters.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या मंत्री जी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि उन आदमियों को जिस तरह से मकानों और दूकानों के देने की बात सोची जा रही है और उसके लिये लोन दिया जा रहा है, उसी तरह

से उन के कारबार के लिये कोई लोन सैंक्शन होगा क्योंकि उसके बिना उनका काम नहीं चल सकता?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any loans have been sanctioned to get these people settled in some sort of profession in the same manner in which the question of their shops and houses had been considered and the loans granted; because without such help they cannot pull on with their business?]

श्री ऐ० पी० जैन: यह सभी किसी न किसी काम में लगे हुए हैं। जिन्हें अभी तक मकान नहीं मिला है उसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि वह बिल्कुल खाली बैठे हुए हैं।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** All of them are settled in one profession or the other. It does not mean that the persons who have not been able to find houses for themselves are without any means of livelihood.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Does the scheme include West Bengal refugees? If not, have Government formulated any scheme for them?

Shri A. P. Jain: This Conference had nothing to do with East Bengal refugees. It was a Conference of Rehabilitation Ministers from the Western region. What I stated does not therefore apply to East Bengal refugees.

Shri Kamath: Are figures available as to how many refugees, who were forcibly evicted by Government from the shelters which they had built for themselves by their own efforts in the absence of Government aid for them, were thus compelled to become squatters?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think the question is full of insinuations. He need not use adjectives. It implies that the eviction is "forcible". It implies that they were "compelled". This question was discussed and full explanation given.

Shri Kamath: Not for all States.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Has there been any plan for requisitioning houses in the towns for allotting them to these people who have no houses?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as our information goes, the housing situation in the towns is very difficult and there is not much scope for requisitioning houses to accommodate D.Ps.

Photographic Chemicals

*2355. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the production figures of various photographic chemicals in India during the first half of 1950;

(b) the names of such chemicals as are produced in India; and

(c) the quantity of the above chemicals which falls short of total consumption in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Sodium thiosulphate.—198 tons.

Sodium sulphite.—78 tons.

Sodium bisulphite.—103 tons.

Hydroquinone.—One ton and 1,196 lbs.

(c) India is self sufficient for her requirements of sodium sulphite and sodium bisulphite. So far as sodium thiosulphate and hydroquinone are concerned, our present production falls short of estimated annual requirements by 170 tons and 17 tons respectively.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the chemicals the import of which has been banned?

Shri Mahtab: There is no ban on import of chemicals.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the chemicals that are not produced in India?

Shri Mahtab: Till about the middle of 1950, India was entirely dependent on imports for hydroquinone, but since then one firm is manufacturing a certain quantity.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the factories where potassium bromide and sodium bromide are being manufactured?

Shri Mahtab: The materials, the names of which I just now read out, are being manufactured here and certain quantities are also imported. With regard to the two items mentioned by the hon. Member, I am sorry information is not available just now.

Cases before Conciliation Officers

*2358. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of cases of disputes pending for settlement before each Conciliation Officer (Central) at the beginning of the year 1950;

(b) the number of fresh cases referred to them for settlement during the year;

(c) the total number of cases decided during the year (i) in favour of employees; and (ii) in favour of employers;

(d) the total number of unsettled cases referred to Central Government for orders;

(e) the total number of cases still pending for disposal; and

(f) the dates of three oldest cases coming under parts (d) and (e) above?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (f). A statement is placed on the Table of the House giving the requisite information. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 20.]

Babu Gopinath Singh: What action has been taken by the Government in unsettled cases referred to it by conciliation officers for orders?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: In some cases, they have been referred to adjudication and in other cases, further efforts are being made to resolve the disputes.

Babu Gopinath Singh: Will the hon. Minister kindly have the figures placed on the Table checked up and make himself sure if they are correct?

Mr. Speaker: They are presumed to be correct. What is the question?

Babu Gopinath Singh: I am afraid the figures given in the table are not correct. So I want the hon. Minister to have them checked up again and give correct figures.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! Next question.

Disposals

*2359. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of stores held by the Directorate General of Disposals which were awaiting disposal as on 31st December 1950;

(b) the value of stores since disposed of; and

(c) the value of stores still lying undisposed of?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Surplus stores of the book value of Rs. 43·5 crores were available for disposal on 31st December 1950.

(b) Stores of the book value of Rs. 5·96 crores have been disposed of during the months of January and February 1951.

(c) Book value of stores available for disposal on the 1st March 1951, was Rs. 41·07 crores.

Babu Gopinath Singh: Is it a fact that Government promised last year that this Department would be wound up by March 1951?

Shri Gadgil: That was our estimate, Sir. But there are still stores left with the Defence Ministry. They are declaring from time to time what is surplus to them. The House will find that in the course of the last two months they have declared Rs. 3·56 crores worth of goods as surplus. That is the reason why we have to extend the period.

Shri Sidhva: When is it likely to be closed and may I know whether the regional offices are closed or do they still continue?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot give any estimate of time. As regards the second point, I require notice.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Flour-mill Workers (Wages)

*2354. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the rates of wages fixed for the unskilled flour mill workers from March, 1951 in different parts of Delhi?

(b) Is there uniformity in the rates of wages in different parts of Delhi and if not, why not?

(c) How does it compare with unskilled labour in other industries in the same locality?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Rs. 57 per month or Rs. 1/14/- per day have been fixed as the minimum rates for all flour and *Dal* mills situated within Delhi and New Delhi Municipalities, as well as within the limits of Shahdara, Najafgarh, Narela, Mehrauli and Yusuf Sarai; for other outlying areas, the minimum rate fixed is Rs. 51 per month or Rs. 1-11-0 per day.

(b) There is no uniformity namely for the following reasons:

(i) the expenses of rural workers in respect of certain items such as rent, fire-wood, amusement, education and certain miscellaneous expenses are less than those of the urban workers.

(ii) the business of flour mills in rural areas is somewhat restricted as compared with the Flour Mills situated in urban areas.

(c) The rates compare favourably with the existing wages as paid in the same localities in unorganised industries.

TYPE-WRITER MANUFACTURING PLANT

*2356. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have any information regarding the establishment of a type-writer manufacturing plant in India and if so, what is it?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Yes. Two Bombay firms propose to establish type-writer manufacturing factories. One of them is likely to go into production during the course of this year. The other has not made any progress in the implementation of their scheme.

REHABILITATION IN ANDAMANS

*2357. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether Government have received any complaint from the displaced persons rehabilitated in the Andamans, that the bullocks supplied to them are so old and infirm that instead of being an asset to the displaced persons, they have become a liability to them?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Yes. A report was received in May, 1949, by the Ministry of Home Affairs that 51 pairs of buffaloes supplied from Madras were of a very poor quality.

GERMAN REPARATION MACHINES

*2360. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what expenditure has been incurred by the Government of India in connection with the selection and transport of German Reparation machines from Germany to India?

(b) What amount has been or is being spent on the storage charges of these machines, demurrage charges, if any, pay of supervisory staff, and other staff employed in this connection and cost of repairs incurred, if any?

(c) What amount has been realised or is estimated to be realised by the sale of these machines to Government departments and private parties?

(d) Have all the machines received been disposed of?

(e) If not, what portion has been disposed of up till now and when is the remaining portion likely to be disposed of?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 21.]

INDUSTRIAL SURVEYS

*2361. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the industrial surveys undertaken during the last three years under Government direction and their results?

(b) Which were the surveys for which foreign experts were employed, how much money was spent on them and what was the action taken by Government on their recommendations?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 22.]

WORK CENTRES

*2362. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of work centres for displaced persons in each State started by Government for (i) women; (ii) children; and (iii) men;

(b) the number of persons working in each centre; and

(c) whether the number is proposed to be increased?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement giving the number of work Centres in different States is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 23.] There are no work centres for children.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 24.]

(c) Yes.

EARTH MOVING MACHINERY (PURCHASE)

*2363. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Works. Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some time back tenders were invited by the Directorate General of Industry and Supply for the purchase of Earth Moving Machinery for Hirakud Project;

(b) if so, what was the total estimated price of the stores:

(c) whether it is a fact that only three firms sent their tenders and instead of accepting the lowest tender, the Directorate referred all tenders to the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power, and if so, why;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Works. Mines and Power gave their preference on the advice of one of their foreign experts;

(e) whether it was ever brought to the notice of the Government that the adviser concerned had interests in the firm recommended by him to the Government; and

(f) if so, what action was taken on the adviser and the Directorate?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 77 lakhs approximately.

(c) No. Sir, quotation were received from 12 firms. After examining these, the question was discussed with the Central Water-power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, in accordance with the usual practice of consulting this expert body, whenever considered desirable.

(d) In respect of one item only where working conditions and operating costs had to be taken into consideration besides the price of the machinery.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

TELEVISION BROADCAST BY INDIA'S AMBASSADOR TO U.S.A.

*2364. **Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our Ambassador to the U.S.A. made a television broadcast from Washington on 1st January 1951:

(b) if so, whether she criticized therein the American Public Relations Organisation;

(c) whether she also stressed China's non-aggressive intentions in Korea and Asia; and

(d) whether a full text of her speech is available?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Ambassador expressed views similar to those that I have expressed in this House and elsewhere.

(d) The interview was impromptu and no text of questions and answers was prepared.

INDIAN NATIONALS IN BURMA

*2365. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many Indian Nationals had to leave Burma during the last two years due to the activities of the insurgents and the orders of the Burma Government to discharge Government servants of alien nationality?

(b) What cost had the Government to bear to repatriate and re-employ such destitute Indians?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) 54,393 Indians returned from Burma to India in 1949 and 21,918 in 1950. It is not known how many of them left Burma owing to the activities of the insurgents and how many as a consequence of the orders of the Government of Burma terminating their services, or for other reasons.

(b) About 13,411 destitute Indians were repatriated from Burma at Government expense during the two years in question. The total expenditure incurred on them during the year 1949-50 was about Rs. 5,60,000 and about Rs. 50,000 have been spent during the current financial year up to the 31st December, 1950.

PREFABRICATED SHOPS

*2366. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of shops:

(i) prefabricated;

(ii) temporary; and

(iii) permanent

constructed out of funds of the Central Government all over India?

(b) What is the number of each class still remaining to be constructed and where?

(c) How many of these have been and are to be constructed in Delhi?

(d). What is or would be the total expenditure under each of the classes referred to in parts (a), (b) and (c) above?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 25.]

AMERICAN EXPERT FOR TARIFF BOARD

*2367. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have engaged any American expert for the Indian Tariff Board in connection with its enquiry into steel prices?

(b) What are his qualifications for the job, wherefrom has he come and what will be the cost to the Government of India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir. The services of an American expert have been obtained to assist the Tariff Board to assess the effect of technical and managerial efficiency on cost of production of the two producers, *viz.* Tatas and SCOB.

(b) He is the Manager of the Metallurgical Department of Koppers Company, Inc. Pittsburgh, PA., one of the leading firms of Consulting Engineers in the U.S.A. This firm was also selected for the preparation of a project report on our New Steel Works. The remuneration payable to Koppers is still under consideration.

PERMITS FOR GOING TO PAKISTAN

*2368. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recent announcement by Pakistan High Commissioner in India to the effect that persons willing to proceed to Pakistan must apply at least six weeks in advance to the Pakistan Permit-issuing authorities in India?

(b) Have Government raised objection to this period;

(c) Has the Pakistan High Commissioner in India also issued orders that persons who intend visiting ailing relatives should first obtain certificates from the Civil Surgeon of the district in which the relation resides?

(d) Has any order been passed by the High Commissioner of Pakistan in India for relatives who intend visiting Pakistan for funeral purposes?

(e) How much advance notice is required in that case?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (e). The Government of India have of late observed increasing strictness on the part of the Pakistan Government in the administration of the Permit System. While the Government of Pakistan were averse, generally, to the grant of permanent resettlement permits, in the matter of temporary permits also now, matters have become very difficult for Indian nationals. According to a Press Note issued by the Pakistan High Commissioner on 13th January 1951, a person going from India to Pakistan has to apply for a temporary permit at least six weeks in advance. The application is, thereafter, sent to Pakistan for pre-verification, only after which a temporary permit will be granted by the Pakistan High Commissioner in India. Persons intending to visit Pakistan even to see ailing relations are now required to attach a certificate from the Civil Surgeon of the district in Pakistan in which the ailing relation resides, as proof of his illness. There is no special procedure for persons attending funerals in Pakistan, but apparently, they are also covered by the general rule requiring six weeks' time for a visit to Pakistan. The Pakistan Government are also reported to have recently withdrawn the limited exemption in the matter of production of Income-tax clearance certificates, which had hitherto been allowed to Indian nationals visiting Pakistan. It is, thus, now not possible for an Indian national even to visit Pakistan for a single day without having to produce a Pakistan Income-tax clearance certificate.

The Government of India have viewed this development of strictness on the part of Pakistan authorities in the matter of travel between the two countries with great concern, especially, as the Government of India have themselves been consistently liberalising the rules, so much so that it is now possible for almost any person to visit India from Pakistan without let or hindrance. The Government of India have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan through the High Commissioner for India at Karachi. The question was also raised with the Pakistan Government at the recent Trade Conference held in Karachi.

A conference was held recently at New Delhi between Pakistan and Indian representatives to consider measures necessary for the successful implementation of the Trade Agreement, as a part of which facilities for travel to traders were also considered. During this conference, the Pakistan representative promised to take up with his Government the formulation of common rules for travel between the two countries and meanwhile, to recommend to his Government the withdrawal of the recent restrictions imposed by it. The Government of India have not yet heard the views of the Pakistan Government in the matter.

TANNING INDUSTRY

*2369. **Shri Sonavane:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the policy of Government to encourage and improve the cottage industry of tanning?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): Government's policy is to encourage and develop all cottage industries including tanning. At the recommendation of the Cottage Industries Board, the cottage industry of tanning is being taken up for special examination in consultation with State Governments.

PURCHASE OF *Khadi*

*2370. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what was the amount spent by the Government of India for purchasing *Khadi* for their requirements during the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50?

(b) What was the total amount spent by the Government of India for purchasing cloth for the same purpose during the same period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to Starred Question No. 9 on 15th November 1950.

(b) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Year	Amount.
	Rs.
1947-48	1,23,65,489
1948-49	2,10,39,616
1949-50	3,07,79,173

PROVIDENT FUND COLLECTIONS FROM COLLIERY LABOUR

*2371. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the amounts collected by individual collieries towards the Provident Fund from their labour under the provisions of various awards prior to the application of Provident Fund Act on 1st January 1950?

(b) How much and what percentage of this amount has been refunded by the collieries to their workers, and how much and what percentage of the amount has remained unpaid?

(c) Where is this unrefunded amount kept and how do Government propose to dispose it of?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 26.]

(c) The unrefunded amount is kept with the collieries and will be available to the subscribers or their nominees when claimed.

PROVIDENT FUND COLLECTIONS FROM RAILWAY COLLIERIES

*2372. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the amount collected by each of the Government Railway Collieries towards the Provident Fund from their workmen under the provisions of various awards prior to the applications of the Provident Fund Act on 1st January 1950?

(b) How much and what percentage of this amount has been refunded by the collieries to their workmen and how much and what percentage of the amount remained unpaid?

(c) How do Government propose to dispose of this unrefunded amount?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (c). I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the statement placed on the Table of the House today, in reply to his question No. 2371. The position regarding the State Railway collieries has been marked in asterisk.

INVESTMENT OF INDIAN CAPITAL IN PAKISTAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY

*2373. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian Industrialists who are prepared to finance Pakistan's Textile Industry, if any; and

(b) whether the Government of India have been consulted in the matter and whether they propose to allow Indian Capital to be invested abroad?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The Government of India have not been approached by any Indian Industrialists with a proposal for investment of Indian capital in Pakistan.

ADMINISTRATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

*2374. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from the All India Refugee Association to the effect that increasing laxity is being shown in the administration of evacuee property declared by authority constituted by law to be evacuee property taken over as such;

(b) what are the conditions for issuing permanent resettlement permits to evacuees returning from Pakistan; and

(c) whether Government propose to exercise stricter control in issuing such permits?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No.

(b) The permit system was introduced in July 1948. In September 1948, a system of 'No objection certificates' was introduced under which any national of India visiting Pakistan temporarily could take an identity certificate from the Deputy Commissioner/Collector of his district in India, on the basis of which he could obtain a permanent return permit to India. The difficulty arises only in the case of those persons who went before the introduction of this system, and who had no intention of really settling down in Pakistan. If after due investigation and verification the Government of India are satisfied that the person had no intention of migrating and that he was trapped in Pakistan on account of circumstances beyond his control, a permit for permanent resettlement is granted.

(c) The question does not arise.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (REGISTRATIONS)

*2375. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons were registered in the various Employment exchanges in the country in 1950-51; and

(b) what sort of employment was given to them?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The Employment Exchanges registered 10,44,895 employment seekers during the year April 1949 to March 1950 and 10,95,599 during the ten months April 1950 to January 1951.

(b) Vacancies in which applicants were placed covered a wide range of occupations. They included administrative and clerical posts, supervisory posts in industry, jobs for technical operatives in the engineering, building and other industries, vacancies for teachers and others belonging to the educational profession, for doctors, nurses, midwives and others belonging to the medical profession, and employment for domestic servants such as *ayahs*, cooks etc. Unskilled labourers were also placed in employment in large numbers.

LOANS AND COMPENSATION

*2376. **Lala Achint Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that small percentage of displaced persons from West Pakistan have been able to receive loans from the Rehabilitation Finance Administration and State Governments above the amount of rupees four thousand or so and due to lengthy procedure and a number of restrictions, a general feeling of hopelessness has prevailed amongst the displaced persons about the Rehabilitation Finance Administration?

(b) Is it also a fact that the Government of India have turned down the request of the Advisory Committee of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for inviting fresh applications?

(c) Is it a fact that no compensation for the moveable or immoveable property has been paid to them out of the Muslim Evacuee property or by the Pakistan Government even after three and a half years of their arrival in India?

(d) Are Government aware of the fact that most of the people have completely exhausted all their meagre resources as they had brought in the form of small ornaments or petty cash?

(e) Have Government ever contemplated upon their plight and thought of paying only a part of their claims submitted twice to the Government of India, say three annas a rupee or so, as an advance immediately out of their own funds and deduct the same amount at the time of actual payment for their claims?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The

Regulations framed under the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act permit the Administration to deal with only applications in which the amount of loan asked for exceeds Rs. 5,000/- and loan applications for loans below this figure are handled by the State Governments. The total number of loan applications from displaced persons from West Pakistan sanctioned up to the 31st December, 1950, was 4321 for an amount of Rs. 4·26 crores, *i.e.* an average of Rs. 9,900 per application, against which a sum of Rs. 1·71 crores was disbursed during the period to 2072 applicants.

(b) The question regarding re-opening of application lists in general as suggested by the Advisory Board of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

(c) No compensation has been paid so far. Maintenance allowance is, however, being paid out of income from evacuee property to some persons who lived on income from immovable property in Pakistan and who have no source of livelihood in India.

(d) No economic survey has been made to enable Government to answer the question with precision. But Government do not accept the sweeping implications of the question.

(e) The matter was considered but any interim payment has not been found feasible.

चमड़े का सामान (आयात)

*२३७७. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या **वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) चमड़े के सामान की कितनी मात्रा प्रतिवर्ष विदेशों से आयात की जाती है तथा इसके लिए कितना मूल्य चुकाया जाता है ;

(बी) क्या यह सामान अभी भारत में निर्मित नहीं किया जा सकता है; तथा

(सी) क्या भारत से चमड़ा तथा खालें विदेशों को निर्यात की जाती हैं ?

LEATHER GOODS (IMPORT)

[*2377. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of leather goods annually imported from foreign countries and the price paid for it;

(b) whether these goods cannot be manufactured in India as yet; and

(c) whether India exports hides and skins to foreign countries?]

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 27.]

(b) Imports mainly consist of industrial leather goods which are not yet made in the country in satisfactory quality.

(c) Yes, Sir.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

*2378. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is permissible for the State Governments to correspond direct with foreign Governments;

(b) if so, in what subjects they carried on direct correspondence; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have instructed the State Governments to correspond with foreign States through the External Affairs Ministry of the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). All correspondence with foreign Governments should normally take place through the Ministry of External Affairs and State Government's should not correspond directly with foreign Governments or their representatives. This is the normal diplomatic practice. State Governments have, however, been permitted to carry on direct correspondence with representatives of foreign Governments in India on routine matters such as a request for factual information of a non-confidential nature on technical subjects, and sometimes in connection with the investigation of specific crimes of a non-political character.

In regard to our dealing with Pakistan, the following exceptions have been made:

(i) The partitioned Provinces of Assam, Bengal and Punjab have been authorised to correspond on partition matters directly with their counterparts in Pakistan.

(ii) The Tripura Government have been authorised to correspond directly with the

East Bengal Government regarding co-operation between police forces, detection of crimes, etc.

(iii) Exchange of correspondence between the State Governments in India and the Provincial Governments in Pakistan on exchange of publications, of seeds and of information of a technical and scientific nature has also been permitted.

COTTON EXPORT

*2379. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantity, if any, of cotton that was permitted to be exported during the year 1950?

(b) What was the number of export licences granted for the export referred to in part (a) above?

(c) To which countries was the export made?

(d) Was the export duly notified to trade and if so, when and in what way?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A quantity of 1,53,605 bales of raw cotton was allowed to be exported during the year 1950.

(b) 974.

(c) The countries to which export was permitted are:

(1) France,
(2) Belgium.
(3) U. S. A.
(4) U. K.
(5) Australia.
(6) Italy.
(7) Japan.
(8) Holland.
(9) Switzerland.
(10) Canada.
(11) Germany.
(12) New Zeland.
(13) Thailand.
(14) Denmark.

(d) Yes; the quotas against which licences were issued were duly notified to the trade by port authorities through public notices, except in respect of a quantity of 6,500 bales for which a licence was issued to a Bombay firm for export to U. K. under circumstances already explained in reply to Shri Kannamwar's question No. 708 answered on the 6th December, 1950.

AREA BETWEEN INNER LINE AND MAC MOHAN LINE

*2380. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the distance in miles between the Innerline and the MacMohan line on the North-East of India;

(b) the estimated acreage of the area between the lines;

(c) the estimated (approximate) population thereof; and

(d) whether the population thereof will be entitled to any kind of representation in the Parliament of India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The distance between the Inner Line of the North East Frontier Agency and the MacMohan Line varies a great deal from an average of 64 miles in Mishmi Hills to 120 miles in Abor Hills as the crow flies.

(b) As there has been no proper survey of the extensive mountainous area between the two lines an estimate of the acreage is not available.

(c) The estimated population is about 5 lakhs.

(d) The population of the area is represented in the Parliament of India.

EXPORT OF COAL TO BRITAIN

*2381. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations with Britain have been completed for the export of coal to Britain;

(b) if so, of what variety and what is the quantity to be so exported;

(c) what are the other countries to which India has been exporting coal since the last two years; and

(d) what is the total quantity produced in India during the last two years?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) No, Sir, this has only been an enquiry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Aden, Australia, Burma, Ceylon, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Manilla, Pakistan, Saigon, Singapore and South Korea.

(d) 1949.....31,450,479 tons.
1950.....31,993,963 tons.

WASTE COTTON

*2383. **Shri Radhelal Vyas:**
Shri K. K. Vyas: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of waste cotton exported during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the selling prices of ordinary and waste cotton which were prevalent during these years in India;

(c) the countries to which the waste cotton was exported and the quantity exported to each country; and

(d) the selling prices of ordinary and waste cotton in those countries during this period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 28.]

(b) Statements showing the prices of cotton fixed for the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 28.]

The information regarding the selling prices of cotton waste for internal consumption are not available because the prices of cotton waste are not controlled. The selling prices of waste cotton exported are mentioned in the Statement placed on the Table in reply to part (c) of the question.

(d) The information is not available.

SALE OF FOOD GRAINS

*2384. **Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the States in which foodgrains are sold by measures and not by weight?

(b) Do Government consider the desirability of having one system alone in all the States?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The information is not readily available, but it is understood that in some parts of the country foodgrains are sold by measure.

(b) The question of standardising weights and measures is under consideration.

SUPPLY OF YARN TO HANDLOOMS

*2385. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of Handlooms that were supplied yarn in each State in the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the reply given to part (a) of Starred Question No. 689 put down for reply on 8th March 1950. These were the figures supplied by the various States and it can be assumed that yarn on *pro rata* basis was supplied to all of them by the State Governments.

DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITIONS

*2386. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the strength of the staff attached to the Director of Exhibitions and the expenses incurred during the years 1949 and 1950?

(b) What are the functions of the office of Director of Exhibitions?

(c) What are the qualifications of the present Director?

(d) Was he selected by the Union Public Service Commission?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 29.]

(d) No, Sir, but his appointment has since been approved by the Commission.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (STRENGTH OF OFFICERS)

*2387. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of Secretaries; Joint Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries attached to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry at present?

(b) What was the number of these officers when these two Ministries were functioning separately?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 30.]

EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON PLANNING COMMISSION

*2388. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the work of the National Planning Commission for the year 1950?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Rs. 5,43,217.

DEFENCE OF NORTH FRONTIERS OF NEPAL

*2389. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to

state whether any treaty or agreement existed before the 15th August, 1947, between the Governments of Nepal and India for joint defence of the northern frontiers of Nepal?

(b) If so, does any such agreement still exist?

(c) If not, do Government propose to have any such agreement with the Government of Nepal?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). No. There has however been an understanding for mutual consultations in the event of any foreign aggression.

PUMP FACTORIES

*2390. **Shri Jajoo**
Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:

(a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the application for permission to start a pump-factory in India with their own capital submitted by Messrs. Johnston International as stated by the hon. Minister in reply to part (g) of starred question No. 965 answered on the 18th December 1950, has been considered by Government?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, is the permission granted or not?

(c) Did Government consider the present capacity of indigenous pump makers before granting the permission?

(d) Were there no Indian firms to start such factories?

(e) What special stipulations for making use of Indian personnel and energy by the foreign firm have been entered into and do they form part of the permission given by Government?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The firm's proposal has been accepted by the Government. Formal sanction will be issued shortly by the Controller of Capital Issues.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The American firm have undertaken to impart the requisite technical training to Indians and they propose to establish a training school for technicians required for pump installation and maintenance. They will make every endeavour to utilise the indigenous resources of raw materials to the greatest extent possible and negotiate with other local firms for the manufacture and supply of various components.

ALLOTMENT OF M. PS. BUNGALOWS

*2392. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bungalows available for allotment to Members of Parliament; and

(b) whether there are any over-due arrears in respect of these bungalows?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) There are 108 bungalows meant for allotment to Members of Parliament. All of them have been allotted.

(b) Yes.

EXPORT OF GROUNDNUT KERNELS

*2395. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of groundnut kernels exported from India in the years, 1949-50, and 1950;

(b) the countries to which groundnut kernels are exported by India;

(c) the value of the export trade in these years;

(d) if the answer to part (a) above is that groundnut kernels are not exported from India at present, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is proposed to revive the export trade in view of the Budget proposals, which envisage an income of 1½ crores of rupees from the levy of export duty at Rs. 80 per ton?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). I lay on the Table of the House a statement containing the required information. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 31.]

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No general resumption of exports of groundnuts is contemplated at present.

FOREIGN FIRMS

*2396. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the conditions under which foreigners and foreign firms can carry on trade and business in India?

(b) Are there any rules governing the matter?

(c) If so, do Government propose to place a copy of Rules on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). No conditions have been prescribed for the conduct of trade and business by foreigners and foreign firms in India nor have any rules been framed specifically for the purpose. I would, however, refer my hon. friend to the reply given by Shri K. C. Neogy to parts (c), (d) and (e) of his starred question No. 433 on the 22nd February 1950.

(c) Does not arise.

FOREIGN FIRMS

*2397. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the number of foreign firms now carrying on business in India?

(b) What is the number of foreign firms which have started business in India since 1st January 1948?

(c) What was their number in each of the years, 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). No up-to-date information is available. But the position on 30th June, 1948 was as follows:

Number of controlled partnerships, *i.e.*, firms registered and operating in India, whose partners abroad had proprietary rights of control was 36.

Number of companies, incorporated outside India, having branches in India was 465. In addition, there were 663 Indian Joint stock companies, which were either subsidiaries of parent companies incorporated abroad or were managed by foreign controlled Indian Joint-stock companies or a substantial portion of whose shares was owned abroad.

The number of foreign firms granted permission to set up industrial undertakings was 24 in 1948 and 44 in 1949 and 47 in 1950.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES EMPORIUM, NEW DELHI

*2399. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the Cottage Industries Emporium in Delhi acts as an agent for sale of exhibits sent or does it buy the goods?

(b) What was the value of articles sent to or purchased by the Emporium in the years 1948-49, 1949-50, and 1950-51?

(c) What was the total sales in those years?

(d) What is the Commission or the margin of profit the Emporium charges for sales per rupee and what was the total earning in these years?

(e) What is the cost of the establishment, rent and other expenses, per year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The Emporium generally acts as an agent for the sale of goods on a commission basis. It also buys goods to a limited extent.

(b)	Articles received on consignment basis for sale	Articles purchased outright
1948-49	Nil	Nil
1949-50	Rs. 2,90,000	Rs. 22,418-12-6
1950-51 (upto Feb. '51)	Rs. 2,50,000	Rs. 44,845-11-3

(c) 1948-49 - Nil
1949-50 - Rs. 1,23,635-14-3
1950-51 - Rs. 1,92,494-9-9

(d) The rate of commission varies between 6 pies and 4 annas per rupee. The total earning was:

1948-49 - Nil
1949-50 - Rs. 12,958-10-3
1950-51 (upto Feb. 51) - Rs. 17,720-10-3

(e) 1948-49 - Rs. 8-6-0
1949-50 - Rs. 41,258-14-0
1950-51 - Rs. 56,170-8-0

EXPORT OF SOFT WOOD TO PAKISTAN

*2400. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to export soft wood from India to Pakistan?

(b) What quantity was exported in the year 1950-51, and what quantity will be exported in the years 1951 and 1952?

(c) What varieties of soft wood will be exported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Separate statistics of export of soft wood to Pakistan during the year 1950-51 are not available. Information regarding total quantity of timber exported to Pakistan during the period April-September 1950 has already been laid on the Table of the House in reply to Starred question No. 1303 by Shri A. C. Guha on the 9th Februray 1951. The quantities fixed

under the recent Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement for export to that country are 5,000 tons during the period 26th February 1951 to 30th June 1951 and 20,000 tons during the period 1st July 1951 to 30th June 1952.

(c) The variety of soft wood agreed to be exported to Pakistan is jungle-wood from Malabar, Assam etc.

PRINTER'S INK

*2401. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of the annual requirements of Printer's Ink is produced in India;

(b) what are the production and import figures for the years 1949 and 1950; and

(c) whether any self-sufficiency programme has been chalked out in this respect and if so, what is it?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). About 1,000 tons of Printer's Ink other than Rotary Newsprint Ink was produced in India in the year 1950. The production figures for the year 1949 are not readily available. The figures of annual consumption are also not available but the indigenous production does not cover India's total requirements. The value of imports of Printer's and Lithographers Ink during the years 1949 and 1950 is as follows:

1949— Rs. 18,21,000.

1950— Rs. 14,24,000.

(c) No, Sir.

CLOSURE OF JUTE MILLS ON THE HOOGLY

*2402. **Shri Nazirudddin Ahmad:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the jute mills on the "Hooghly" were closed from the 9th to the 18th March, 1951;

(b) whether this was due to shortage of raw jute; and

(c) when this state of affairs came to the notice of Government?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government had been aware of the difficult stock position for some time before decontrol.

PERMISSION TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF PAKISTAN TO VISIT INDIA

*2403. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government permit Government Officials of Pakistan to visit their wives or near relatives in India periodically; and

(b) if so, what arrangements have been made to check their activities while in India?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) The normal rules for temporary visitors to India are applicable also in the case of Pakistan Government Officials visiting India otherwise than in their official capacity.

MOVABLE PROPERTY OF DISPLACED PERSONS SOLD IN PAKISTAN

*2404. **Shri Hussain Imam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Custodian of Evacuee Property, Sind and Federal Capital of Pakistan, has forwarded, to the High Commissioner for India in Pakistan, a statement of evacuee movable property sold by him?

(b) If so, what was the value of the property?

(c) What amount has been paid to the High Commissioner for India in Pakistan?

(d) Have the Government of India paid to displaced persons concerned the amount received from Pakistan?

(e) Have the Government of India furnished any such list of properties of evacuees to the Government of Pakistan and has any payment been made?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

औषधियां

*२४०५. **श्री खापर्डे :** क्या **वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे:

(ए) भारत में विदेशों से आयात की जाने वाली विदेशी औषधियों का मूल्य तथा भारत से विदेशों को कितने मूल्य की औषधियां निर्यात की जाती हैं;

(बी) भारत में औषधियां बनाने वाले विदेशी सार्थों की संख्या तथा उन भारतीय सार्थों की संख्या जो इस समय आयुर्वेदिक पद्धति से औषधियां बना रहे हैं; तथा

(सी) विदेशों में भारत की आयुर्वेदिक औषधियों की वार्षिक मांग ?

MEDICINES

[*2405. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the value of foreign medicines are imported into India from foreign countries and how much worth of Indian medicines are exported;

(b) the number of foreign firms in India, that manufacture medicines and the number of Indian firms, that are at present manufacturing medicines on Ayurvedic system; and

(c) the demand per year for Ayurvedic medicines of India in foreign countries?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Number of foreign and Indian firms manufacturing medicines on organised basis is 21 and 40 respectively.

Information regarding the number of Indian firms manufacturing medicines on Ayurvedic system is not available.

(c) I am afraid this information is not available.

STATEMENT

(Value in lakhs of Rs.)

	Imports	Exports
1948-49	836·12	80 95
1949-50	850·63	80.60
1950-51 (April to December)	718·06	75·08

मिट्टी का तेल

*२४०६. **श्री खापर्डे :** क्या **निर्माण उत्पादन तथा रसद** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) विदेशों से सन् १९५० में आयात किये गये मिट्टी के तेल की मात्रा तथा निर्यात करने वाले देशों के नाम;

(बी) क्या भारत में भी मिट्टी के तेल के कुएं हैं ?

(सी) यदि हैं तो इन कुओं से प्रति वर्ष प्राप्त होने वाले तेल की मात्रा; तथा

(डी) उन राज्यों के नाम जहां यह कुएं हैं ?

KEROSENE OIL

[*2406. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of kerosene oil imported from foreign countries in the year 1950 and the names of the exporting countries;

(b) whether there are kerosene oil wells in India also;

(c) if so, the quantity obtained per year from these wells; and

(d) the names of States where they are found?]

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) 807,000 tons of Kerosene were imported during the year 1950, from Iran, Bahrein, Saudi Arabia and Sumatra.

(b) Yes.

(c) A very small proportion of our requirements.

(d) Assam.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

*2407. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate date by which Government propose to make payment of urban claims verified under the Displaced Persons Claims Act, 1950; and

(b) the percentage or ratio in which Government propose to make the payment of such claims?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to my reply on 14th August 1950 to part (b) of Starred Question No. 370 by Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man. Government are not in a position to add anything more definite at this stage.

मध्य प्रदेश के मिल श्रमिक

*२४०८. श्री खापर्डे : (ए) क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में मिल श्रमिकों की संख्या क्या है तथा उनमें स्त्रियां कितनी हैं ?

(बी) मिल मालिकों अथवा सरकार द्वारा इन मिल श्रमिकों के लिए कितने तथा किन किन स्थानों पर कल्याण केन्द्र चलाये जा रहे हैं; उन केन्द्रों के नाम क्या हैं तथा उनसे कितने श्रमिक लाभ उठा रहे हैं ?

(सी) क्या रात की पारियां भी होती हैं तथा क्या इन पारियों में स्त्रियां भी काम करने जाती हैं ?

(डी) किन किन मिलों में रात की पारियां होती हैं ?

Mill Workers in Madhya Pradesh

[*2408. **Shri Khaparde:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what is the number of mill workers in Madhya Pradesh and how many among them are women?

(b) How many Welfare Centres are being run and at what places for these mill workers by the mill owners or by Government, what are their names and what is the number of workers utilising them?

(c) Are night shifts also run and do women also go to work in the night shifts?

(d) In which mills there are night shifts?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (d). The information is being obtained from the State Government concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Medicines

*2409. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to improve the supply position of medicines and injections imported from U.S.A. and other hard currency areas?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Note issued by the Ministry of Health on 2nd February 1951. Since then certain other essential drugs have been included in Open General Licence *vide* Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification No. 11-ITC/51, dated the 13th March 1951. It has also been decided to allow import of preparations of the drugs and medicines mentioned in the Notification under Open General Licence unless such preparations have been specifically excluded. The question whether any further liberalisation in the licensing of drugs and medicines is necessary is being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Health.

Rehabilitation in Bihar

139. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of displaced agriculturist and non-agriculturist families settled so far in the State of Bihar?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Educated Unemployed Persons

140. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether Government are in possession of statistics of unemployed educated persons in India?

(b) If so, how many matriculates, non-matriculates, under-graduates, graduates and post-graduates are unemployed at present?

(c) Has there been an increase in the number of unemployed persons during the last two years?

(d) If so, how do Government propose to tackle this problem?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No such statistics are available.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is difficult, in the absence of statistics, to say if there has been any increase in the number of unemployed persons. The number of registrants at Employment Exchanges who were unemployed at the end of 1950 was 3,30,743 as against 2,75,533 at the end of 1948.

(d) The problem of employment is intimately bound with the general economic activity in the country and it has always been the aim of the Government to so formulate their policy as to maintain such economic activity at the maximum possible level.

Tribunal for Enquiry into Import Control

141. Shri Sanjivayya: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to set up a tribunal to enquire into the complaints made with regard to the import control as recommended by the Estimates Committee; and

(b) if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The procedure for dealing with complaints within the Chief Controller's Organisation, has been tightened up and improved. Complaints received are carefully scrutinised and reports are called for from the Chief Controller of Imports wherever necessary. All the complaints are personally scrutinised by senior officers, and most of them by me or the Deputy Minister. There has been a considerable improvement since the Estimates Committee examined the estimates of the Commerce Ministry and Government consider that, at this stage, it is neither necessary nor practical to appoint any special tribunal to examine complaints.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 21st March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT OF FOOD GRAINS

*2410. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what was the production of food grains in the State of Bombay in 1949 and 1950?

(b) What was the supply made by the Centre to Bombay State during the same period?

(c) How many towns and villages are under ration in the State of Bombay?

(d) What is the total number of towns and villages in the said State?

(e) What is the criterion for deciding ration area in rural areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Production of foodgrains in the Bombay State during 1949 and 1950 were 35,22,000 tons and 43,52,000 tons respectively.

(b) Supplies from the Centre during 1949 and 1950 amounted to 10,74,000 tons and 7,22,000 tons respectively.

(c) 12 cities and 136 towns which are urban in character are under statutory rationing. Throughout the rest of the State comprising 36,140 towns and villages which are non-urban in character a system of controlled distribution exists under which non-producers and inadequate producers are supplied a prescribed quantum of grain from Government shops.

(d) 36,288 (including 12 cities).

(e) Supply position in the area concerned.

Shri Sidhva: What is the demand by the Bombay Government for the year 1951 and how much has been allotted by the Centre for 1951?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The demand by the Bombay Government was about 10.25 lakh tons. Against it 3 lakh tons have been allotted.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the proposal of the Central Government for abandoning rural rationing in Bombay State has been accepted by Bombay?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It has not so far been accepted.

Shri Sidhva: If the rationing is continued in the rural areas may I know what will be the quantity required during 1951?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Between internal procurement and what is given by the Centre it would be considerably much more than what is available at the present moment.

Shri Sidhva: May I know what happened at the Conference that the hon. Minister had with the Ministers in Bombay in connection with this matter and also whether any other Minister from the Centre participated in it and with what result?

Shri K. M. Munshi: About rural rationing?

Shri Sidhva: Yes.

Shri K. M. Munshi: There was no conference with regard to rural rationing at all. A suggestion was placed before the Food Minister's Council by Madras that they would like to give up rural rationing. On that Bombay did not like to adopt the idea. In the result the States were left free to adopt such system as the circumstances may warrant.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask whether the figures which my hon friend gave

in answer to part (a) of the question were supplied to him by the Bombay Government or were they supplied to him by his own Ministry?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as those figures are concerned I think they were supplied by the State.

Shri Shiva Rao: Does my hon. friend's Ministry make any independent check about these figures?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There has been random sampling experiment by the I.C.A.R. machinery going on.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is it a fact that there is very frequently striking divergence between the statistics supplied to my hon. friend by the Economic Adviser on the one side and his Statistical Adviser on the other?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no divergence between the Economic Adviser and the Statistical Adviser. The discrepancy is between the high estimates submitted by the State authorities and the results of the random sampling experiment.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer to part (c) that non-producers in the villages are supplied grain under a controlled distribution system, may I know what is the number of such villagers and what is the quantity of grain supplied to them?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as the rationed population is concerned—I take it that that is what the hon. Member wants.....

Shri Jhunjhunwala: No. The number of villagers who are supplied grain under a system of controlled distribution, and the quantity of grain supplied.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got figures separately for rural and urban areas. If the total figure is wanted I can give it.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Arising out of the answer to part (b), may I know what is the basis on which allotments are made to the various States?

Shri K. M. Munshi: First of all, in the Basic Plan which is made, the basis taken is the demands made by each State. That is examined, and after the availabilities are taken into account and also the extent of the foodgrains which could be supplied by the Centre, the figure is arrived at.

Shri Kamath: With reference to parts (c) and (d) of the question, have reports been received from the Government of Bombay or from other public organisations of Bombay State that in view of the food subsidy being continued by the Centre to the industrial and urban areas there has been a steady movement of population from the rural to the urban and industrial areas recently?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There has been no actual representation with regard to this question.

Shri Kamath: Reports.

Shri K. M. Munshi: The reports are that on account of the fact that in some of the cities the foodgrains are sold at a lower value there is a movement of the villagers to the cities. But that is merely a report, it is not an authenticated one.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether ration is supplied to the rural population of Bombay?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes, I think in considerable parts of the State rural population is given rations.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Will the hon. Minister please tell us what was the quantity supplied to the Madras State in 1949 and 1950?

Mr. Speaker: I think it goes beyond the scope of the question. This is restricted to the Bombay State. Let us not go beyond.

Saikh Mohiuddin: In view of the failure of the *rabi* crop may I know whether Government are considering the question of increasing the allotments to the Provinces?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It will depend upon the availabilities.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the production in Bombay for 1950 was about 43 lakh tons. May I know how much of it was procured during that year, that means last year?

Shri K. M. Munshi. Procurement during 1950 was 5,70,000 tons, including rice, wheat and other grains.

Shri Sidhva: Since out of 43 lakh tons production only 5 lakh tons and-odd has been procured has he enquired what was the reason for it and where the other quantity has gone?

Shri K. M. Munshi: This is the procurement. The rest remains with the people who eat it. Part of it is sent and sold in the black market.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, one question about the restoration of the cut.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

PRODUCTION OF TELEPHONE APPARATUSES

*2411. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether any schemes for augmenting production of telephone apparatuses in the Telephone workshops in Bombay, Bangalore, Jubbulpore and Calcutta have been finalised?

(b) What is the production in these workshops at present?

(c) What is the expected increased output under the new scheme?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) A scheme for augmenting production of the P. and T. workshops at Alipore, Jubbulpore and Bombay has been finalised and is expected to be implemented shortly. A programme of accelerated production has also been drawn up for the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Bangalore which has not yet gone into full production.

(b) The total production of the three P. and T. workshops during 1949-50 was Rs. 2,34,15,000 as shown below:

	Rs.
Alipore (Calcutta)	80,03,000
Jubbulpore	55,61,000
Bombay	98,51,000
Total	2,34,15,000

The total number of telephones assembled in the Indian Telephone Industries, Ltd., during 1949-50 was 19,216. Manufacture of a large number of components has been taken up and is being speeded up progressively.

(c) It is not possible to say at this stage what exactly the increased output under the new scheme will be.

Shri Sidhva: Will this scheme be controlled by any Committee or Board? If so, may I know the composition?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, Sir. The management has been entrusted to a Board of Management; it will be autonomous. The Members of the Board are: Chairman, Chief Engineer, P. and T., the Additional Chief Engineer, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Mr. S. K. Kasbekar, General Manager of the P. and T. Workshops and the Deputy General Manager.

Shri Sidhva: Is there any representative of the workers also of these stations?

Shri Kidwai: There is no representative of the workers but one of the employees has been put and his name is Mr. Kasbekar, as I just mentioned.

Shri Sidhva: In view of this new scheme, the hon. Minister stated that he cannot just now visualize what will be the increased output under part (c). May I know if on account of this scheme there is likelihood of an increase of output? Can I have an idea of the percentage increase?

Shri Kidwai: There were certain delays in giving sanctions to the new purchases etc. Therefore, more authority has been given to this Board and we hope that the avoidance of delay will increase production.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether if the workers produce more they would be allowed some bonus?

Shri Kidwai: That is also under consideration. This Board will decide what bonus should be given.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know, Sir, if only the different parts are assembled here or the parts are also manufactured here?

Shri Kidwai: No. In our Bangalore factory the parts are manufactured and we hope that within the 5 years limit, all the parts will be manufactured and assembled. There will be no imports.

Shri Karunakara Menon: Is it a fact that mere assembling takes place here? If not, what are the parts that are made here? What are the parts imported from foreign countries? What is the proportion of the value of the articles that are manufactured here and that are imported from outside?

Shri Kidwai: As I said we started manufacturing parts. It is difficult for me to name the parts because I am told that a telephone is composed of at least 500 parts or even more. I understand that more than half, we are manufacturing here and in the next two years, we will perhaps be manufacturing all the parts.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether there is any scheme for training Indians in foreign telephone factories as technicians?

Shri Kidwai: Yes. Since we entered into this contract with the foreign company, we had sent some people in 1949; we sent another batch in 1950 and we selected some of our students who were studying engineering in England and got them trained in this factory and I think next year we will be sending some more.

Shri Rudrappa: I want to know the installed capacity of these factories and when they are going to reach the maximum production.

Shri Kidwai: I have not been able to follow the hon. Member I hope they will be manufacturing all that and they will fulfil our requirements.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : ज़रा मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं।

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** May I ask a question?]

मिस्टर स्पीकर : अभी बहुत वक्त हो चुका है।

[**Mr. Speaker:** We have already spent a lot of time on it.]

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मैं बहुत बार उठा हूं, इस के पहले भी उठ चुका हूं। यह कैसी बात है?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** I have risen so many times already. How is this?]

RICE FROM GOVERNMENT OF VIET-NAM

*2412. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact, as reported to be announced by the Head of the Viet-Nam Information Mission in India recently, that the Government of Viet-Nam were willing to sell at least 30,000 tons of rice to India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): On the occasion of the recent visit to New Delhi of the Viet-Nam Information Mission Government of India were informed by the Head of the Mission that the Government of Viet-Nam were prepared to permit the export of 30,000 tons rice to India. Our Representative in Saigon has been asked to obtain Viet-Nam Government's formal agreement and to report on the procedure of obtaining supplies.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there had been any talk about the price of the rice also?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is being considered. The hon. Member will remember that there is no Government control in Viet-Nam and therefore the deal has to be negotiated with several merchants. At the moment our Consul General is trying to obtain a firm agreement on the export of rice and investigate the most suitable channels for the supply as well as the price.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Have Government taken care to compare the price of rice in Viet-Nam with the other countries nearby?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact when the price is reported to the Government of India, it will take into account the competitive prices in other countries.

Thakur Lal Singh: May I know whether the Viet-Nam Government have been consulted by us as regards rice and whether it offered to give us rice?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In Viet-Nam there is no Government control and the deal has to be with the merchants.

Shri M. A Ayyangar: With your permission, may I ask a question? May I ask whether the hon. Minister has received any information or a telegram from the South India Chamber of Commerce saying that large quantities are available in Burma and that he is not taking steps to bring them here?

Mr. Speaker: I think a question on that is tabled.

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is already there. Another question is tabled.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know which other Asian countries have offered to sell rice to India?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So for as I am aware we are negotiating with Burma, Siam, Viet-Nam, China and may be possibly, Japan, I am not sure.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Has any offer of rice been made by the Government of Ho Chi Minh?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know whether there is any such offer.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Will the Government be prepared to issue import license to any person who undertakes to get rice from Siam and other places and import it into India and deliver the same to Government at their rates?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not come across a merchant who is prepared to bring rice at the rate at which Government is buying from Governments in other parts of the world.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: As you suggested, the other two connected questions are Nos. 2428 and 2436 and they relate to the same matter. May I request you to take them together?

Mr. Speaker: Unfortunately the hon. Member is not here, but he may be

permitted. As regards 2436, it is postponed to another day at the request of the hon. Member. I think these questions may be taken up later on.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question now.

NORTH BENGAL HIGHWAY

*2413. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) how far the proposal for the construction of the North Bengal Highway — Burdwan—Teilduija—Siliguri Road avoiding Pakistan territory, has been materialised;

(b) whether the preliminary survey has been completed and construction begun; and

(c) what is the expenditure for the preliminary survey and the estimated expenditure for the construction of the road?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Estimates to the value of Rs. 172.56 lakhs have already been sanctioned and the Central Government has accepted further commitments to the extent of Rs. 55.15 lakhs. It will however, take some years to complete this highway which is nearly 283 miles long.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 37,000 and Rs. 227.71 lakhs respectively. These figures apply to the the first stage of the construction only.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether this North Bengal Highway is included in our list of National Highways and if the entire cost will be borne by the Central Government?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. It is included in the National Highway No. 34 and partly in No. 31.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there is any alternate road connecting the northern districts of Bengal with the western districts of Bengal through the Indian territory?

Shri Santhanam: There is no connected road; there are sections of roads which are maintained by the State of Bengal connecting certain parts.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the acquisition of land for the construction of this road has been completed and if so, the amount of compensation given to the land owners?

Shri Santhanam: I am afraid I have no information. I want notice.

Shri A. B. Gurung: In view of the fact that the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway connecting Swoke and Geilighola has been finally abandoned, and in view of the pressure on the existing road, may I know whether Government have any proposal to widen the existing National Highway linking Gangtok?

Shri Santhanam: I want notice.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether there is any proposal to lay a road from Siliguri to Dubri in Assam?

Shri Santhanam: It is rather difficult to remember the geography of these places.

NIGHT LANDING FACILITIES FOR AERODROMES

*2414. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the aerodromes of India that are equipped with night landing facilities; and

(b) the minimum expenditure for providing an aerodrome with such night landing facility?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) there are 11 aerodromes which are equipped with night landing facilities for regular services. In addition, there are 31 aerodromes where emergency night landing facilities are available. The equipment is improvised war-time and there is a programme of making it modern as funds become available.

(b) For want of funds improvised Disposal sets have been provided. The cost of runway lighting is Rs.2,300 and the cost of beacons is Rs. 10,000. It may be stated that no more of this equipment is available and modern equipment will cost not less than Rs. 5 lakhs for each airport, the bigger one costing more than Rs. 10 lakhs.

Dr. M. M. Das: I wanted to know the names of the aerodromes that are equipped with night landing facilities.

Shri Kidwai: I may give the names, Sir: Safdarjung (Delhi), Allahabad, Santa Cruz (Bombay), Juhu (Bombay), Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Madras, Begumpet, Dum Dum, Barrackpore, Palam. Then, there are 31 aerodromes where emergency landing arrangements can be made: Lucknow, Gauhati.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not think he need read all the names.

Shri Kidwai: That is what he wanted.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there is any international standard for these night landing equipment and facilities, and if so, what is that?

Shri Kidwai: The present facilities satisfy the minimum international standards.

Shri Rathnaswamy: In view of the fact that night travelling is becoming increasingly popular, is there any scheme to construct more aerodromes when funds permit?

Shri Kidwai: All the aerodromes that have been constructed and equipped for passenger flights are not being used yet. Tnerefore it is not found necessary to construct new aerodromes.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there is any international authority for supervising the night landing equipment?

Shri Kidwai: There is no international authority to supervise. But, there is an international body which lays down the standards.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister whether he would make arrangements to allow landing during night flying at Hyderabad?

Shri Sondhi: Begumpet is there.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: I am asking for night flying; it is not there.

Shri Kidwai: I will have to go through the list. There is arrangement at Aurangabad and also at Begumpet.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Did the hon. Minister say that there are night landing arrangements in Gauhati? I could not follow.

Shri Kidwai: I said emergency landing arrangements are possible.

Shri S. V. Naik: Is the Central Government thinking of taking over the Deccan Airways because of the continuance of the Night Air Service?

Shri Kidwai: I think that is not covered by this.

DOURALA SUGAR CUBES

*2415. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar required annually for the manufacture of Dourala Sugar Cubes;

(b) when the factory for the manufacture of Dourala Cubes first started;

(c) the monthly quota of sugar sanctioned by Government for the manufacture of Dourala Cubes; and

(d) whether the sale of the Dourala Cubes is controlled?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The manufacturing capacity of the cube plant at Dourala is 5,400 tons per annum but only 1,090 tons sugar was allotted to it during 1950.

(b) In the year 1938.

(c) From 85 to 100 tons per month.

(d) Price is controlled but not distribution.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there are any other factories in India for the manufacture of these sugar cubes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes; there are six other factories—rather seven—which are allotted sugar for the purpose of preparing cubes.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether these factories have got their own farms for the cultivation and production of sugar cane, or whether the Central Government gives them a certain quota of sugar for the manufacture of cubes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Most of these sugar mills are in the U.P. and Bihar. I do not think—I speak subject to correction—that they have got farms of substantial areas. There is one in Bombay; it may have got a farm.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the difference between Dourala sugar and ordinary factory sugar so far as composition and price is concerned?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice.

Shri Sonavane: May I know what steps are taken by Government to see that these cubes are sold at controlled prices to the consumers in Delhi?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Distribution of these cubes is not controlled. Only the price level is fixed. Therefore, it is difficult for Government to control the prices.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What is the controlled price of these cubes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The price is Rs. 0—11—6 per pound when sold in a packet and Rs. 0-10-3 when sold in five pound packets.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Has it come to the notice of Government that these cubes are being sold at Rs. 1-2-0 or anything up to Rs. 1-4-0 per pound?

Shri K. M. Munshi: May be.

'GROW MORE FOOD' CAMPAIGN

*2417. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government have decided to reorientate the 'Grow More Food' campaign?

(b) If so, in what direction has there been a change?

(c) Will Government further explain the new methods adopted to reach the target of food production?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). I may add that a Report on the Grow More Food Campaign has been placed in the hands of Members recently. I may, however, shortly summarise the steps. There are no really good methods to be adopted for increasing food production; improvement is to be attained in the direction of better organisation and better allocation of priorities in the use of our resources. It is in these respects that the policy has been reorientated. Since taking over as Minister I have emphasized the concentration of G.M.F. schemes in compact areas which have natural advantages of good soil, assured water supply and other facilities for intensive development, so that the G.M.F. effort may not be dispersed over a large area and the maximum results can be obtained therefrom. I have also given top priority to schemes like reclamation of waste lands, construction of tubewells, installation of pumping sets on existing water resources and improvement of lands, which will permanently increase food production. For purposes of close liaison with States and general supervision of G.M.F. schemes, I have divided the country into five regions and appointed four senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and one retired I.C.S. gentleman to work as Agricultural Production Commissioners for each of these regions.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, may I know what, under this concentrated Grow More Food Scheme of the Minister, has been the result achieved? Has any sample survey been made to find out whether this scheme has produced better results?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The intensive cultivation scheme has come into operation from this year. So it is premature to say what results have been achieved.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, may I know as a result of the integrated production scheme, how much of essential food crops such as wheat and rice have gone out of cultivation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I don't think that as a result of the integrated production programme any substantial area has gone out of cultivation of food grains.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any effort has been made under the new drive for food production to get the initiative from the cultivator himself in co-ordinating these production schemes?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far there has not been any scheme implemented. But there is a scheme for having extension services in the different States. As it is, what has been done in the past is being carried over, improved in certain respects, with the assistance of the different regional Food Commissioners.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Sir, what grants or loans have been made to the different States for the construction of percolation wells and tube-wells?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think it is in the report published by the Agricultural Ministry. I have not got the figures with me now.

Shri Dwivedi: Sir, taking it for granted that 29 lakhs of acres are lying vacant in Vindhya Pradesh, may I know what is the practical result of the Grow More Food Campaign in that region?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Sir, I don't understand how it can be taken for granted that.....

Shri Dwivedi: May I interrupt?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The question is there and the hon. Minister is giving the reply.

Shri K. M. Munshi: What can be granted is that 29 lakh acres of land are to be reclaimed by large-scale and tardy processes which cannot be done just now. There cannot be any results of any Grow More Food this year.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : अधिक खाद्य पदार्थ उपज करने की जो चेष्टा केन्द्रीभूत की गयी है या की जा रही है, इस का क्या मतलब है ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** What is the significance of the centralisation of the efforts for growing more food?]

मिस्टर स्पीकर : मैं आप का सवाल कुछ समझा नहीं हूं ।

[**Mr. Speaker:** I have not been able to follow your question properly.]

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मैं समझा देता हूं। अधिक खाद्य पदार्थ उपज करने की चेष्टा केन्द्रीभूत की जा रही है, इसका क्या अर्थ है ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** I shall explain it. What is the significance of the statement, 'the endeavour to grow more food is being centralised'?]

Mr. Speaker: He asks why it is being centralised.

श्री के० एम० मुंशी : वह केन्द्रित नहीं हो सकती है, सेंट्रेलाइज़ेशन हो ही नहीं सकता है, क्योंकि वह काम तो स्टेट्स को करना है । उन को अलाउंस देते हैं और स्टेट्स ग्रो मोर फूड की स्कीम को करती हैं ।

[**Shri K. M. Munshi:** It cannot be centralised. Centralisation is impossible, for this is a job for the States to do. We pay them allowances and it is they who are pushing forth the grow more food scheme.]

Pandit Kunzru: Is it a fact that under the integrated production scheme, about 900,000 acres of land formerly under food crops have been diverted to the production of jute and cotton?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am not sure about the figure 900,000; but under last year's policy, some considerable portion of the 9 lakh acres must have been diverted.

Pandit Kunzru: How did the hon. Minister then reply earlier that no land formerly under food crops was now being used under the integrated production scheme for any other purpose?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is because what was done was before the integrated production came into existence. That scheme comes into operation from the 1st of April this year.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, what new method has been adopted to get the cooperation and coordination of the cultivator in the proposed scheme?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have pointed out, at present there are district and tehsil officers in some of the States who approach the agriculturists and mobilise their cooperation. But we are evolving a scheme for extension service by which this effort could be intensified and larger cooperation secured.

Shri Kamath: Sir, does the new apparatus on your table obstruct your vision?

Mr. Speaker: No, it is penetrating enough to go through it.

Sugar Cane

*2425. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the new staple varieties of sugar cane which are disease-free, obtained as the result of research in 1949-50?

(b) How much is being spent on this research work every year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 32.]

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : इस स्टेटमेंट में आप ने रेड राट और स्मट का जिक्र किया है । लेकिन पाईरेला, एनीमी नम्बर वन आफ शुगरकेन, का जिक्र नहीं किया है । तो क्या ऐसी कोई शुगरकेन की वैराइटी है जो इस को रजिस्ट कर सकती हो।

[**Shri Balmiki:** In this statement you have mentioned Red Rot and Smut but you make no mention of Pyrella, enemy No. 1 of sugar-cane. Is there any variety of sugar-cane which might resist it?]

श्री के० एम० मुंशी : नोटिस चाहिये ।

[**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I require notice.]

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : इन प्रदेशों में जो रिसर्च हो रही है, उस का लाभ उठाने के लिये क्या कदम उठाया जा रहा है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** What steps are being taken to take advantage of the research that is being conducted in the States?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: I could not quite catch the question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He asks what concrete steps have been taken to take advantage of the expenditure incurred over the research.

Shri K. M. Munshi: The results of the research? As a matter of fact, these control methods are being used in about 1,236 acres in the U.P. out of 1,306 acres. Similar experiments are being tried in other zones.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : क्या ऐसी नये प्रकार की ऊख का पता लग गया है जिस में कोई रोग न होता हो ?

[**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Has any new variety of sugar-cane been discovered that might be wholly disease resistant?]

Shri K. M. Munshi: Not yet, but we are hoping that some day we will be able to discover it.

सार्वजनिक बस सेवा

*२४२६. **श्री जांगड़े** : क्या **यातायात मंत्री** उन स्थानों के नाम बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे जहां सड़क यातायात अधिनियम के पारित हो जाने के पश्चात् भारत सरकार ने स्वयं अथवा राज्य सरकारों के सहयोग से सार्वजनिक बस सेवाओं को अपने अधिकार अथवा पर्यवेक्षण में ले लिया है ?

Public Bus Services

[*2426. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the names of the places, where the Government of India themselves or in co-operation with the States Governments, have taken over the public bus services under their control or supervision after the Road Transport Act was passed?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): There is no Central enactment known as 'The Road Transport Act'. Presumably, the hon. Member is referring to the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950. If so, the reply is in the negative except that the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation, set up under the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1948, has been validated by virtue of Section 47 of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950. The Delhi Transport Service is conducted by the Delhi Road Transport Authority set up under the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतलायेंगे कि दिल्ली ट्रांसपोर्ट आथोरिटी के लिये सरकार ने कितनी पूंजी लगाई है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister state the amount of capital invested by the Government for the Delhi Transport Authority?]

Shri Santhanam: Sir, I have not got the figures.

Shri Jangde: What is the recurring and non-recurring expenditure incurred on the Transport Authority?

Mr. Speaker: It does not directly arise out of this question.

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजना

* २४२७. **श्री जांगड़े** : क्या **यातायात मंत्री** यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) किन प्रावधानों के अन्तर्गत किसी सड़क, नदी के पुल अथवा किसी बन्दरगाह को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजना के अन्तर्गत लिया जा सकता है ;

(बी) किसी सड़क की इस परियोजना के अन्तर्गत लाने के लिये क्या उस सड़क का दो राज्यों में से हो कर जाना आवश्यक है ; तथा

(सी) क्या दुर्गम पहाड़ी सड़कें भी इस परियोजना के अन्तर्गत ली जा सकती हैं ?

National Highways Scheme

[*2427. **Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions under which any road, bridge across a river or any port can be taken under the National Highways Scheme;

(b) whether it is essential that a road must run between two States for purposes of bringing it under this scheme; and

(c) whether the difficult mountain roads too can be taken over under this scheme?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). The roads forming part of the present, provisional, National

Highway system were selected for this purpose after a long process of consultation with State Governments through the Transport Advisory Council and otherwise. The criteria accepted as the basis of this selection, are given on page 29 of the Ministry of Transport's Report for 1948-49, copies of which are in the Library of the House.

श्री जांगड़े : किन आधारों पर मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग की लम्बाई निर्माण करने को सरकार निश्चित् करती है ?

[**Shri Jangde:** What are the criteria for the determination of the length of the national highway in the case of Madhya Pradesh?]

Mr. Speaker: He refers to Madhya Pradesh only?

Shri Jandge: Yes Sir.

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the details of all the National Highways here. They are all given in the Transport Ministry's report for 1950-51, which has been supplied to all Members.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय यातायात मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के निर्माण में प्रादेशिक सरकारें कितना आर्थिक सहयोग देती हैं ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister of Transport be pleased to state what monetary contribution do State Governments make towards the construction of these national highways?)

Shri Santhanam: So far as the National Highways are concerned the entire construction and maintenance are the responsibility of the Central Government.

COMPENSATION FOR LOST OR DAMAGED GOODS

*3429. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what amount of money Government had to pay in 1950 in connection with compensation for goods lost or damaged in the course of transit by Government Railways?

(b) Out of the above amount, what was paid after court decrees and what was paid *suo-motu*?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam) (a) The total amount paid during the year 1950 as compensation for goods lost or damaged in transit by rail was Rs. 3,95,88,716.

(b) Out of the above amount a sum of Rs. 56,61,144 was paid in respect of decrees against railways and the rest in the normal course of settlement.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: How much of the loss incurred by Government in paying these compensations have been recovered from the defaulting officers?

Shri Santhanam: There is no question of any recovery from defaulting officers, because in most cases no officer could be located as being responsible for the loss. It is all lost in transit owing to many causes.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether thefts of goods consignments in 1950 had decreased as compared with the previous year or had they increased?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir, it is decreasing. For instance from 32,000 in 1948-49 it decreased to 29,000 in 1949-50 and to 26,000 in 1950-51.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether these thefts are committed more by the railway officers themselves than by outside agencies?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is the Government in a position to inform the House of the amount recovered by sale or auction of such goods which were not delivered to the consignees because of wrong direction or damaged condition?

Shri Santhanam: The Government is in a position to give the information if the hon. Member will put a separate question.

Shri T. N. Singh: What I wanted to know was to what extent was Government reimbursed by such sales?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice.

Dr. Parmar: What is the number of cases pending and the amount involved?

Shri Santhanam: The balance outstanding on the 1st April, 1951, was 64,000. I have not got the amount of the claims.

FOOD PROCUREMENT

*2430. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two procurement officials of West Bengal

were murdered by certain villagers in the current season in the course of procuring rice there;

(b) in what other States scuffles between cultivators and officials have taken place in 1950 in Government's procurement drive; and

(c) whether it is a fact that States have complained to the Central Government that due to fixation of low procurement prices in grains, wide discontent is prevailing amongst producers?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A patrol party consisting of one patrol leader and 4 patrollers employed on anti-smuggling duties under the Procurement Directorate of the West Bengal Government and stationed at Kuliali (Sadar Sub-division, 24-Parganas), which went out to check the boats carrying rice and paddy in contravention of Bengal Foodgrains Control Order, was assaulted and the entire party murdered.

(b) Minor cases of assaults on procurement staff have been reported by Madras and Hyderabad.

(c) No, Sir, the States have not complained, nor is it a fact that procurement prices are low.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: Is it a fact that there is enough rice in Bengal but due to low procurement prices it is not available to Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is rice no doubt but I do not know whether it is because of the low procurement prices that it is not forthcoming.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether the West Bengal Government had asked the Central Government to increase the procurement prices?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I cannot say definitely about the West Bengal Government but other Governments had asked for a rise in the price of procurement and wherever it was found to be fair permission has been given to raise the price.

Shri S. M. Ghose: May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that in West Bengal a large number of *Dhenkies* used for husking paddy are being confiscated by the West Bengal Government from the poorer classes of people?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no knowledge. If the hon. Member wants the information I can get it from the West Bengal Government.

Shri S. M. Ghose: Has the attention of the hon. Minister been drawn to the many editorials written in the Calcutta newspapers about this affair?

Shri K. M. Munshi: My attention has not been drawn to that particular editorial and I read a fairly good number of Calcutta newspapers.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that Government is procuring from producers at the rate of Rs. 13 per maund, at what rate does Government supply rice to the non-producers of the very same villages?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think the hon. Member is correct. Paddy which is procured from one district is not necessarily sold in that very district. The paddy is collected and then converted into rice and incidental charges are added and then it is distributed over the whole State wherever there is statutory rationing.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Is it a fact that the procurement prices are much lower than the prices of maize and other commodities in the open market?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as other prices are concerned the black market prices are always much higher. So far as the free market is concerned it depends upon the area and the nature of the scarcity and so far as these prices are concerned they are lower than the other prices.

Shri S. N. Sinha: May I know whether any State Government has made any representation against the enforcement of procurement on the ground that it is difficult to do so on account of insufficient statistics regarding acreage under individual cultivators?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think that such protest has been made on the specific ground referred to by the hon. Member.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the difficulties experienced in procuring foodgrains by the various State Governments, may I know whether the Central Government is going to revise the procurement prices?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have already pointed out where States have brought to the attention of the Central Government that prices for procurement should be raised within certain limits they have been allowed to do so.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Has any compensation been paid to those persons who were murdered?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think the best convention is that a Minister

does not put questions to another Minister. It is for the other Members of the House to put questions to Government and Members of Government do not put questions.

Shri Abdus Sattar: Is the hon. Minister aware that the Government purchase rate of paddy in West Bengal is Rs. 7-8-0 per maund?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I am expected to remember all that, but I don't remember it at the moment.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: On a point of order, Sir. Why cannot a Minister of one Department ask a question about another Department, especially when he is not a Member of the Cabinet?

EXTENSION OF BORIVLI RAILWAY PLATFORM

*2431. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government have received representation regarding extension of Borivli (B.B. & C. I.) platform which is causing great hardship to passengers?

(b) If so, what is the position?

(c) Is it contemplated to hold over the extension scheme until the High level electrification extension scheme is completed?

(d) If so, how much time will that High level scheme take to complete?

(e) What would be the cost of extension of the platform if taken in hand prior to the completion of the scheme?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to take up the work of extension of the platform at Borivli after completion of electrification of the through line between Bandra and Borivli.

(d) The electrification of the through line between Bandra and Borivli is expected to be completed by the end of 1952-53.

(e) Extension of the platform at Borivli if taken in hand prior to completion of Bandra-Borivli electrification would cost approximately Rs. 33,000, but this amount would be rendered wasteful when the remodelling of the Borivli station yard is taken in hand on completion of the electrification.

Shri Sidhva: What arrangements have been made meanwhile for passengers who experience difficulty owing to the absence of this platform, in view of the suburban services which have nearly 100 trains running up and down every day?

Shri Santhanam: As soon as the electrification scheme is complete all this trouble will be over. Till then people will have to get on as they have been getting on so far.

Shri Sidhva: Have any complaints been made by the various associations and residents of those places that the women also find it very difficult to get down from the trains in view of the platform not being of the proper dimensions? In view of that, what interim steps do Government propose to take?

Shri Santhanam: But it will mean an expenditure of Rs. 33,000 which will be lost in two years' time.

PORT DEVELOPMENT

*2432. **Maulvi Haneef:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some officers of the Government of India visited some coastal areas of Orissa for investigating the possibility of port development?

(b) if so, which areas were visited by them and who were those officers; and

(c) what are the reports of the said investigation?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). A group of five French experts, headed by Prof. Jean L. Aubert, was recently invited by the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission to advise on the navigation problems of the Mahanadi river. In January-February 1951, this group, accompanied by the Director of Navigation and two Assistant Directors of the C. W. I. N. C., visited the various reaches of the Mahanadi river from Sambalpur to the sea, and also the likely sites for a sea port (at Paradip on the Mahanadi and Dhamra village on the Dhamra river).

(c) A report on the investigation is expected to be received in a couple of months.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS

*2433. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the expenses incurred on the office of the Director of Economics and Statistics attached to the agriculture section in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) What are its functions?

(c) What publications or reports are issued by this section at present?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The Directorate of Economics and Statistics attached to the Ministry of Agriculture was constituted as a separate office with effect from the 1st October, 1948. The expenditure incurred on the Directorate during the last three financial years is as under:

Year	*Expenditure incurred*	*Remarks*
1948-49	Rs. 2,21,886	for 5 months from 1-10-1948.
1949-50	Rs. 5,44,042	
1950-51 (Provisional)	Rs. 5,38,000	

(b) The main functions of the Directorate are:

(i) to collect, compile and maintain statistics relating to food and agriculture;

(ii) to publish standard blue-books of different periodicity based on the statistics collected;

(iii) to prepare memoranda on current issues of economic policy arising out of the work of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture; and

(iv) to prepare special periodical statements and reports for the use of different Ministries of the Government of India, the Planning Commission, the various U. N. bodies etc.

(c) A list of publications issued by the Directorate at present is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 33.]

Shri T. N. Singh: Besides the statistical work carried on by this department, has any effort been made by it to give figures relating to cost of production and relative yield of various crops?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No.

Shri T. N. Singh: Do Government consider it necessary to carry on such surveys?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is being done by the Central Statistical Organisation.

MERGER OF PART C STATES

*2434. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered or propose to consider the question of merger of the Part C States, *viz.*, (i) Kutch; (ii) Bhopal; (iii) Tripura; (iv) Manipur; (v) Bilaspur; and (vi) Coorg with their adjoining States; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to democratise their administration if they are kept as separate States and when any such move is likely to materialise?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to my speech made on the 16th March, 1951 during the discussion on Pandit Mukat Bihari Lal Bhargava's Resolution.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Will the Bill to ensure democratization of administration of Part C States be ready for consideration during the current session of Parliament?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is what I have already promised the House.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know when Manipur and Tripura will be merged and with what State will they be merged?

Shri Gopalaswami: Neither of them is at present intended to be merged in any neighbouring State.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the Judicial Commissioners' Courts in those Part C States where legislatures will be introduced will also be converted into High Courts simultaneously?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is a matter for later consideration.

MONEY ORDER COMMISSIONS AND INSURANCE CHARGES

*2438. **Shri Ramaswami Naidu:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the amount realised by way of money order commissions and insurance charges in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Year	*Money order commission realised*	*Insurance fee realised*
1948-49	2·27 crores	22·31 lakhs.
1949-50	2·48 „	22·84 „
1950-51 (estimated)	2·34 „	23·04 „

CARRIAGE OF MAILS

*2439. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** Will the Minister of **Communication** be pleased to state:

(a) how many trains carry mails south of Madura along the Virudhinagar—Tenkasi Chord line;

(b) whether mail bags are delivered to all the post offices as are on the railway line; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the mail service in the line?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Two.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

NORTH ANDAMAN FORESTS

*2440. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the answer given by him to Starred Question No. 1906 asked on 5th March, 1951 and state:

(a) the names of the various firms which tendered for the lease of North Andaman forests, and the rate of tender submitted by each of them;

(b) the terms and conditions of the tender notice issued by Government.

(c) whether Government have examined the capital structure and balance sheets of the firm with whom negotiations are at present proceeding, if so, their position;

(d) whether this firm has previous experience in this field; and

(e) what is Government's final decision in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement giving the names of the firms which submitted tenders for the lease of the North Andaman forests and the royalty offered by them is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 34.]

(b) A copy of the tender notice is also placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XVIII, annexure No. 35.]

(c) The credentials of the firm selected are being examined.

(d) Yes.

(e) Final decision has not yet been taken.

Short Notice Questions and Answers.

ISSUE OF DATES AS PART OF RATION

Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints or reports have been received that ration shops are compelling ration card holders to accept dates in lieu of a part of the grain ration;

(b) if so, from which parts of the country; and

(c) whether it is being done under a directive from or with the approval of the Centre?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) to (c). No such complaints have been received.

Shri Kamath: Has the Minister's attention been drawn to Press reports to this effect and also to the further report which appeared yesterday, I believe, that 8,000 tons or more of Iroqi dates were received in Bombay, but in Bihar they refused to accept them and distribute them to ration card holders in lieu of grain ration?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no compulsory distribution of dates. They do not form part of the rations, but in view of the fact that the rations have been reduced from 12 ounces to 9 ounces these dates are placed at the ration shops for those people who care to have them.

Shri Kamath: Has the Food Ministry taken steps to see that the dates distributed for this purpose are fit for human consumption?

Shri K. M. Munshi: They are quite fit for human consumption.

FOOD SITUATION IN BIHAR

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to make a statement giving full facts about the latest food situation in Bihar which has been characterised as "desperate" by the Food Minister of the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Sir, I have got a statement here. Perhaps that would make the position clear.

Owing to the failure of the Kharif crop in Bihar, the food situation there has become difficult. The Centre is to supply the State 6 lakh tons of foodgrains during the year 1951. From the 1st of January, 1951 to 16th March, 1951, 82,266 tons of foodgrains have been despatched and during the rest of the month about 30,000 tons are estimated to be sent. This has enabled the Bihar Government to open 2,447 fair price shops in catering to a population of over 75 lakhs. As the year advances, the effects of the drought will be felt more and more, and Centre's allotments and despatches will progressively increase The allotments for the months of January, February and March are 36,000 tons, 38,000 tons and 49,000 tons respectively; for April and May the allotments as well as despatches will be larger. Special facilities have been arranged for transport of foodgrains into North Bihar. Bihar's case has been given top priority in the matter of food by the Centre.

Its stock position has been improving thus—

31st January, 1951—25.000 tons.

28th February, 1951—39.900 tons.

31st March, 1951—49.100 tons (estimated).

The Bihar Government is fully alive to the seriousness of the new stage upon which the State is entering. As I told the House on an earlier occasion, our critical period begins from April when we will have to put forward the best effort for saving certain parts of the country from a critical situation.

The Bihar Government has opened over 2,400 shops which cater to a population of over 75 lakhs of people. Four districts of Tirhut Division, Poornea, Sasra, parts of Bhagalpur and Monghyr are undergoing a heavy strain and a very large proportion of the shops referred to above are in those districts. Relief works have been started all over Bihar for landless labour and loans have been advanced to the agriculturists. The Government has banned the export of vegetables, fish, bananas and mangoes from Bihar. The Government of Bihar therefore is doing its best to meet the situation.

As parts of North Bihar are difficult of access, special arrangements are being made by the Government of India for the transhipment of foodgrains in Banaras and at other railway stations so that the foodgrains may reach the affected areas quickly. Besides, one special train per day carrying foodgrains has been going *via* Mokamah Ghat and supplies to Bihar are being despatched by special trains.

As regards the alleged starvation deaths, the Bihar Government has made detailed enquiries and they reveal that none of them are due to starvation. For instance, as the hon. Shri Sinha, Minister in charge, told me on the phone, three persons alleged to have died of starvation in the Gaya District were found to have died three months ago of fever, one person alleged to have died of starvation in that district had a shop, a family with children and this man had died of T.B.

At the same time, there is no doubt that in certain parts of North Bihar scarcity condition is acute. The District Magistrates have been alerted and they are taking extra precautions to see that the situation does not go out of hand.

In the month of March, 11,771 tons of wheat and 11,968 tons of milo will be despatched to Bihar in addition to what has already been despatched. The U. P. Government is to send 15,000 tons of rice to Bihar and has been requested to expedite the despatch. The total quantity which is expected to be received by Bihar in March is in the neighbourhood of 50,000 tons.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REVENUE RECEIPTS FROM ANDAMAN ISLANDS

*2416. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total revenue receipts from Andaman Islands and what percentage does the forest income form of the total revenue?

(b) What are the other major sources of revenue of the Andamans?

(c) What are the acreage of forest area and cultivated area respectively?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The total revenue from Andamans during the year 1949-50 was Rs. 85,69,981 and the forest income was about 82 per cent. of the total revenue.

(b) (i) Land Revenue.

(ii) Taxes on income.

(iii) State excise.

(iv) Other taxes and duties.

(v) Passage freight and tonnage.

(vi) Miscellaneous.

(c) About 15,11,680 and 5,102 acres respectively.

SMUGGLING OF FIRE ARMS

*2418. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that guns, arms and ammunitions are being sent from West Pakistan to East Pakistan under mail covers *via* Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to avoid such transit through Indian territory?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Government are not aware of any systematic smuggling of guns, arms and ammunitions from West Pakistan to East Pakistan under mail covers.

(b) As, according to International rules, the transit of arms and non-explosive ammunitions through India in closed bags is not forbidden and as no case has come to our notice so far in which the transit of arms and non-explosive ammunitions through the post has either endangered the postal personnel or other mails, it was not considered desirable to impose a ban on the despatch of arms and ammunitions (apart from explosives) through the Indian post in closed bags transiting through India.

FIRING ON BORDERS OF ASSAM

*2419. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether firing was resorted to in Manipur bordering on Assam in 1950; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons that led to firing?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). There was no case of firing on any crowd but on December 21, 1950, a police guard shot dead a communist who attempted forcibly to enter the house of the *Chowkidar* of Khabi.

ROADS MILEAGE IN PART C STATES

*2420. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the total mileage of roads built or maintained during 1948-49, and 1949-50, in each Part C States, and the total mileage of such roads open to traffic on 31st December, 1950?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

RAILWAY MILEAGE IN PART C STATES

*2421. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total mileage of railways in each Part C State open to traffic on 31st December, 1950; and

(b) the amount of traffic carried, as also of the traffic receipts and total earnings and expenditure on the railways in each Part C State in 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Information relating to Railways is prepared on the basis of Railways and not by States. Compilation of the information desired is impracticable as it will involve an amount of labour not commensurate with its usefulness. Figures for the Kutch State Railway which is a separate unit are, however, available and are given in a statement laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Kutch State Railway (2'-6")

	1948-49	1949-50
(1) Route mileage open on 31st March 1950	72.00 Miles	
(2) Passenger Miles	11,786,000	8,532,000
(3) Goods net ton miles.	917,000	899,000
(4) Passengers carried	519,000	443,000
(5) Goods-tons carried	37,000	41,000
(6) Traffic Receipts	Rs. 702,000	681,000
(7) Gross earnings	,, 702,000	681,000
(8) Total expenditure	,, 512,000	624,000

RAILWAY SALOONS

*2422. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state how many officers of his Ministry are entitled to travel by special saloons?

(b) How many other officers of the Government of India, or of States Governments, are entitled to similar facility, while travelling on public business?

(c) Are any special coaches maintained for foreign Tourists, and if so, how many?

(d) On what terms are such special Tourist Coaches allowed to be used by such Tourists, and others?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) At present 14 officers from the Railway Board are normally entitled to the use of Inspection Carriages.

(b) A list of these officers is given in Appendix K pages 403 and 404 of I.R.C.A. Coaching Tariff No. 15, a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the Parliament.

(c) Special Tourist Cars are maintained for public Traffic including Foreign Tourists.

(d) The scale of charges for the use of Tourist cars and saloons intended for the public (including Tourists from abroad) is laid down in rule 104 and 107 of the I.R.C.A. Coaching Tariff No. 15.

'FLAG DISCRIMINATION' IN SHIPPING TRADE

*2423. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what is the significance of 'Flag Discrimination' in shipping trade?

(b) Is it any way objectionable for an under-developed maritime nation like India to encourage and develop her maritime fleet?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) So far as the Government of India are aware, the term 'Flag Discrimination' has no universally accepted significance in the shipping trade. Different persons have given different interpretations to it at different times. In terms of the International Maritime Ports Convention 1923, discrimination between ships of different flags in such matters as port facilities (such as berthing, loading and unloading facilities) and port dues such as tonnage, harbour, pilotage and lighthouse charges can be said to constitute flag discrimination.

(b) No, Sir. This question was discussed when the constitution of International Martime Consultative Organization was discussed. According to the I.M.C.O. Convention, there is no objection to a Government giving assistance and encouragement for the development of its shipping, provided that such assistance and encouragement is not based on measures designed to restrict the freedom of shipping of all flags to take part in international trade.

PALM *Gur*

*2424. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total production of Palm *Gur* during the last year?

(b) What was the amount spent by the Government of India for this production and for research and other experiments on Palm *Gur*?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Total production of Palm *Gur* during 1949-50 was 9,14,660 maunds.

(b) Palm *Gur* is produced by private enterprise in several States. An amount of Rs. 4,31,444 was, however, spent by the Government of India on development and propaganda in 1949-50 as under:

	Rs.
(i) Subsidies granted for the Palm *Gur* Development Schemes in the States.	3,43,208
(ii) Central Palm *Gur* Training School, Guddalore.	40,360
(iii) Expenditure incurred on Palm *Gur* Advisers and staff in the Ministry.	47,876
Total	4,31,444

FOOD GRAINS FROM U.S.S.R.

*2428. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts were made by Government to get wheat or other food grains from the U.S.S.R. in exchange for Tea or Jute; and

(b) if so, what were the results of the efforts?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Enquiries were made from the Embassy of U.S.S.R. in New Delhi regarding the quantity of foodgrains which U.S.S.R. would be prepared to supply to India and the terms of supply.

(b) No reply has been received to these enquiries.

STATE-SPONSORED INDUSTRIES

*2435. **Shri Sarwate:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government of India to report on the State-sponsored industries in Part B States has presented its report;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken, or do propose to take, on the report; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the names of the members of the Committee, and when is the report likely to be presented?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (c). Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai has been invited by the Government of India to review and report on the State-owned and State-aided industrial concerns in Hyderabad, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin.

He has submitted his reports regarding Hyderabad and Mysore and these are under examination in consultation with the respective State Governments.

The report regarding Travancore-Cochin is likely to be made available to Government by the end of March or early in April.

TELEPHONES FOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AT SANTA CRUZ AIR PORT

*2437. **Shri Joachim Alva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state how many exclusive telephones are provided for the representatives of the Press at Bombay's Airport at Santa Cruz and whether they are provided free of charge for the benefit of the Press?

(b) How many waiting or rest rooms are placed at the disposal of the representatives of the Press who keep watch both day and night for in-coming and out-going aeroplanes?

(c) Is any conveyance placed at the disposal of these journalists?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) No separate telephones have been provided at the Santa Cruz Airport for the exclusive use of the representatives of the Press. There are however two public telephone call offices provided in the passenger lounges which can be used by the Press representatives also on payment of the usual charges.

(b) There are two large and well furnished halls provided for the use of the passengers and the public at the airport. No separate rooms have been provided for the exclusive use of the representatives of the Press.

(c) No, Sir.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN HYDERABAD

*2441. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) how many miles of road in Hyderabad State have been declared as National Highways;

(b) what is the annual cost of maintenance of these roads; and

(c) whether any part of this is also borne by the Government of Hyderabad?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 581 miles as designated at present.

(b) About Rs. 6 lakhs at present.

(c) None from 1950-51.

AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE

*2442. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether any change has been made that assistance to a State and from the State to a farmer is based on an agreed percentage of the extra yield that will be surrendered to Government as extra procurement of that area?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The hon. Member is perhaps referring to the reorientation in G.M.F. Policy regarding the concentration of G.M.F. effort in intensive cultivation areas and the linking of procurement with production. It has been suggested to the States that they should procure 60 per cent. of the additional production from the intensive cultivation areas receiving G.M.F. assistance, and this procurement should be reflected in the overall deficit or surplus of that State. In other words, if it is a deficit State, its import quota will be reduced to that extent and if it is a surplus State, its export quota will be increased correspondingly. The Self-Sufficiency Campaign cannot yield the desired results unless this principle is effectively implemented.

हरपालपुर-सतना रेलवे लाइन

* २४४३ श्री आर० ऐस० तिवारी :

(ए) क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश में जहां सैंकड़ों मील तक कोई रेल यातायात सेवा नहीं है, कोई नये रेल पथ बनाने की प्रस्तावना है।

(बी) क्या हरपालपुर को छतरपुर होकर रेल द्वारा सतना स्टेशन से जोड़ने के लिये कुछ समय पूर्व कोई भूमापन किया गया था ?

HARPALPUR—SATNA RAILWAY LINE

[*2443. **Shri R. S. Tewari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is proposed to construct any new Railway in Vindhya Pradesh where there are no railway communications for hundreds of miles?

(b) Was a survey made some years back with a view to join Harpalpur with Santa Station *via* Chhatarpur by rail?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) New Railway lines will be constructed in Vindhya Pradesh as in other part of the country as required by national needs and permitted by national resources.

(b) No survey was carried out for a direct railway connection between Harpalpur and Satna. A Traffic survey was, however, carried out in 1926-27 for a Railway line from Harpalpur to Chhatarpur only.

IMPORT OF BROKEN RICE

*2444. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any intention to import broken rice;

(b) if so, from which country and what quantity; and

(c) whether any offer of the same was already made to the Government of India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) From Thailand. The quantity will be about 50,000 tons.

(c) Government receive numerous offers from private parties for the purchase of broken and whole rice from all parts of the world.

Paniwala MAHARAJ (OIL RESOURCES)

*2445. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to send *Paniwalla* Maharaj to the State of Assam to find out fresh oil resources; and

(b) whether he has any previous achievement to his credit in this sphere?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Though no formal proposal has yet been drawn up, such a question is engaging the attention of Government.

(b) My Ministry has no information on the subject.

RAILWAY CONSIGNMENTS BOOKED FROM PAKISTAN

*2446. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India admit their liability in respect of Railway claims arising out of consignments booked by displaced persons from various stations in Pakistan to destinations in India after 15th August, 1947;

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of Government officials who opted for India, have been affected by losses of consignments referred to in part (a) above; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the action that Government propose to take in that direction?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Claims for compensation whether from displaced persons or others, relating to consignments booked after 15th August, 1947, from railway stations in Pakistan to destinations in India are dealt with by the Indian Railways according to the circumstances of carriage and the Railway's legal obligations in each case.

(b) A number of Government officials, who opted for India, have preferred claims for compensation for loss of or damage to consignments booked by them from stations in Pakistan to India.

(c) Each claim is dealt with on its merits.

PLANE ACCIDENT BETWEEN BANGALORE AND COIMBATORE

*2447. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the accident to a passenger plane between Bangalore and Coimbatore has been completed;

(b) if so, what are the findings;

(c) how many bodies were found on the spot and how they were disposed of;

(d) whether it is a fact that the relatives of the victims were not allowed by the Civil Authorities to go to the scene of the wreckage, even though they offered to pay for the arrangements:

(e) how much luggage, and of what kind, was found intact;

(f) whether it is a fact that no police guard was posted near or around the wreckage, and consequently, many articles were stolen;

(g) how many secret files were found on the spot; and

(h) whether there exist any set regulations for the Civil Authorities to follow when such accidents take place?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir. A copy of the Report has been placed in the Library.

(b) The cause of the accident has been found to be the pilot's error in navigation, particularly in his adoption of letting down procedure in an area of which he was uncertain.

(c) At first 6 bodies, and later 12 more, were found, all of them in a high state of decomposition and disintegration and many of them in small pieces. Two other bodies, completely burnt, were found, making a total of 20. It was impossible for the officials or such relations of the deceased as were there to identify the bodies. It was decided on the spot, by the relations, the representative of the United Kingdom High Commissioner and Government officials, that it would be impossible to remove the bodies which, therefore, were cremated.

(d) This is not so. On the other hand, assistance was given to every one of the relatives who visited the scene.

(e) 110 items of property were salvaged.

(f) Police and Forest Officials guarded the wreckage from the time it was discovered by the search party. It is difficult to say whether, before the discovery, any article was stolen.

(g) A few secret files were among the property recovered; exactly how many files, I do not know but I am having the information collected.

(h) Yes. The Aviation Authorities inform the District Police and Military Authorities who make the search.

रेलवे सहकारी भंडार

*२४४८. **श्री आर० ऐसतिवारी :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) इन रेलों के नाम जिन पर कर्मचारियों के लिये सहकारी भंडार खोले गये हैं ; तथा

(बी) इन भंडारों की प्राथित पूंजी कितनी है ?

Railway Co-operative Stores

[*2448. **Shri R. S. Tewari:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railways where Co-operative Stores have been opened for the employees; and

(b) what is the amount of subscribed capital of these stores?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam:) (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Railway Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Letting out of Railway Land

*2449. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions on when the railway land near block No. 67 (Class IV staff) Railway Servants' Quarters, Moresarai, Queens Road, Delhi, is let out to Messrs. Harnamdas, Mohanlal, Butaram, Om Prakash, Gurdasmal and others;

(b) who is responsible for its sanitation and maintenance;

(c) what kind of structure is built thereon;

(d) what kind of business is carried by them there;

(e) whether any official of the Railway is collecting any rent from them; and

(f) if so, under which head of account it is credited to the Government, if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam:) (a) No land at the locality mentioned has been let out to the persons named in the question or to anybody else.

(b) The Railway Administration.

(c) and (d). Blocks of residential quarters are built in this area and some vacant land is in unauthorised occupation of a number of refugees who have constructed temporary structures thereon for residential purposes. Two or three of these unauthorised structures near the main road are being used as ordinary grocery shops.

(e) The reply is in the negative.

(f) The question does not arise

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Saturday, 24th March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

All India Local Bodies Conference

*2450. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the resolutions passed by the All India Local Bodies Conference held in Delhi on the 15th, 16th and 17th December 1950?

(b) If so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Most of the resolutions are for the consideration of the State Governments. There are three resolutions which directly concern the Central Government and on account of the present financial stringency it is not proposed to take any action on two of them. As regards the third, the matter will be considered in the light of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Local Finance Enquiry Committee, which will be published shortly.

Shri Sidhva: In the areas where the Central Government are concerned with the administration, have Government any scheme to overhaul the administrative system to fit in with the new setup after Independence?

Shri Kidwai: So far as this Conference is concerned only three recommendations concern the Centrally Administered Areas. Two of the resolutions cannot be given effect to on account of financial reasons and the third is under consideration. It will be given effect to as soon as a decision is taken on it.

Shri Sidhva: I was talking of the administrative system in those areas, whether there is any scheme to fit it with the new setup, namely decentralisation of the administration.

Mr. Speaker: He has already replied that financial conditions would not permit them to give effect to two of the resolutions and that the third is under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know whether Government propose any measures in the direction of decentralisation of the administration in those areas.

Shri Kidwai: The question was about the recommendations of the All-India Local Bodies Conference. I have already said in reply that two of the resolutions could not be given effect to on account of financial difficulties and that the third is under consideration and will probably be accepted.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether local bodies in the Centrally Administered Areas have any nominated Presidents and nominated Chief officers?

Shri Kidwai: The hon. Member knows that at some places there are nominated Chairmen and at others elected Chairmen.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Who presided over this conference?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is immaterial.

Boundary Commission

*2451. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 111 asked on the 2nd August 1950 and state:

(a) whether the Boundary Commission for settling the boundary between the districts of Shahabad (Bihar) and Ballia (Uttar Pradesh)

has now been appointed by Government; and

(b) If so, what stage has been reached in the settlement of the boundary dispute between those two districts?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to Shri Syamnandan Sahaya's Starred Question No. 2337 on the 19th March 1951.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the terms of reference of the Commission—whether it has been specifically set up to settle the boundary dispute between Shahabad and Ballia or has it been authorised to settle all the boundary disputes between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh?

Shri Rajagopalachari: No Commission has yet been set up. The Governments of the two States have started preliminary investigations as to the possibility of resolution of differences by direct negotiations and agreed conclusions. A conference of Ministers concerned is expected to be held shortly. On the result of that the commission will have to be appointed, if necessary. The dispute is between these districts—the district of Shahabad and Saran on the one hand and the district of Ballia on the other. The Commission is intended only for this dispute not for all disputes where difficulties have arisen on account of the shifting of the rivers.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that after the investigation started the district authorities of Ballia put forward a claim for over 15,000 acres of land in Saran and because of that several lives have been lost?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is true that on account of the shifting of the river many claims and counter-claims have been made and that is the reason why it was decided to have a commission to have a fixed boundary instead of a river boundary. This was held up by this proposal to have certain negotiations, which may avoid a lengthy enquiry about a fixed boundary.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government have taken any steps to settle the villagers who have been totally uprooted because of this boundary dispute?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have described the position. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to look after people put in difficulties by reason of the shifting of the river beds.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether any negotiation is going on between the State of Bihar and the State of West Bengal regarding the adjustment of the boundary between the two States?

Shri Rajagopalachari: What I have dealt with is the dispute between the State of Bihar and the State of Uttar Pradesh.

National Savings

*2452. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the National Savings collection for the year 1950?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply to part (b) of Starred Question No. 1625 for 21st February, 1951.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that efforts are being made to double the collection figure for the coming year?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have provided for Rs. 9 crores more than in the previous year.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has there been any increase in the collection figure of 1950 as compared with the figure of 1949?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have figures here for financial years, whereas the question specifically relates to the calendar years. The figure for 1948-49 is 2270 and the discharges were 685. The figure for 1949-50 was 2379 and the discharges were 836. In 1950-51 from April to December the figure is 1737 and the discharges were 477. On the whole the figure will be about the same as in the previous two years but next year we hope for a noticeable increase in collection.

Tours of Minister of Information and Broadcasting

*2453. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the various places in India visited by him during 1949 and 1950; and

(b) the expenses incurred on the said tours?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 1].

Shri Sidhva: What is the object of these visits for which this expenditure has been incurred?

Shri Diwakar: To carry out the duties and obligations of the Ministry which is in my charge.

Shri Sidhva: Could the hon. Minister mention any specific duties?

Shri Diwakar: They are the specific duties arising out of the departments which I am running, such as the Press Information Bureau, All India Radio, the D.P.D. Advertising Consultant and so on.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know whether the Minister visits places particularly when such visits are necessary.

Mr. Speaker: It is no use going into those details.

Shri Diwakar: Unless it was necessary the Minister would not have visited the places.

Interest on Sterling Balances

*2454. **Shri Goenka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the question of Sterling Balances was ever discussed by him in his conference with the Ministers of the United Kingdom during his last visit to London?

(b) If so, was the question of increase in the interest on Sterling Balances ever raised by him or alternatively was the question of free investment of Sterling Balances in the London market raised by him, with the Government of the United Kingdom?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). I would refer the hon. Member to the replies I gave on 19th March 1951 to his Starred Question No. 2298 and the connected supplementary questions.

Shri Goenka: In view of the fact that the yield from India's sterling balances is only about ·8 per cent. and in view of the fact that practically all her blocked balances are invested in ½ per cent. Treasury Bills and in view of the fact that if we invest those balances in medium-dated securities it would give us an annual additional income of about 12 to 15 crores and in view of the fact that our agreement on sterling balances expires on the 30th June 1951, for which period only we are obliged by our agreement to keep our funds in the present agreed form of investment and since our latest agreement is only provisional and has not yet been finalised and since the question of investment has not yet been raised, will the Finance Minister give an assurance that he will immediately take up this important matter and insist upon freedom to invest our balances as we like?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This is a resolution, Sir, this is not a supplementary question.

I shall first deal with the rate of interest which we could earn on these balances. Under section 33, sub-section (6)(c), of our own Act, we can only invest, for the Issue Department, in foreign securities maturing within five years. Now, that means that the securities are such as would not yield a very large rate of interest. In regard to the Banking Department, it is usual not to invest in anything but short-term securities because the purpose of balances in the Banking Department is to serve the current banking needs. That is in accordance with the usual banking practices. Therefore, even if we had entered into another agreement, I don't think that in our own interest we should have invested the balances in the manner which is contemplated in the questions put by the hon. Member.

As regards the revision of this agreement, if we seek to revise only this aspect of the agreement then there are various other parts of the agreement which will also fall due for revision, whereas, as I explained in answer to supplementaries the other day, the scheme adopted by us was that we dealt with only the rate of reliefs leaving various other ancillary parts of the agreement as they were. It is obvious that if we sought only for a change in respect of the interest, the other party would have a right to ask for a change in various other respects. On the whole we are satisfied that the agreement is fair to both the parties. Therefore, Government is not able to give the assurance that has been asked for by the hon. Member.

Shri Goenka: Is it not a fact that 2½ per cent. securities maturing within five years, and as provided for under section 33 of the Reserve Bank Act, will yield us above 2 per cent. while we are only getting 0·8 per cent. now?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is now entering into an argument.

Shri Goenka: May I ask another question then? When negotiating a new agreement after the expiry of the old one is it not open to us to raise the question of interest apart from the question of releasing the balances?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: As I explained anything is open, we could have raised various other questions, but my answer is that this is the third agreement and that in the second agreement also the question of the rate of interest was not raised. As I said, the pattern accepted by both sides was considered as fair,

and principally now the matter that fell to be decided was the rate of relief.

TREASURY BILLS

*2455. **Shri Goenka:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether during the nine months ending with 31st December 1950, the Government of India tendered for Treasury Bills from the public?

(b) If so, how many times did they do so and what was the nature of the response and the rate of interest at which the offer was made?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

TAKING OVER OF *Viswabharati*

*2457. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on between the Union Government and the authorities of *Viswabharati* of Tagore regarding financial commitments involved in the scheme of taking over;

(b) if so, the approximate date when negotiations will end in decision; and

(c) whether there is any plan or proposal before Government to run *Viswabharati* as a separate University run by the Union Government?

مولانا آزاد) : منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن آنریبل میمبر جواب دیکھ لیں جو سات مارچ سنہ ۵۱ نمبر ۱۹۳۵ کا دیا جا چکا ھے - یہ سوال شری ایس- این - مشرا نے کیا تھا -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) to (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given on the 7th March, 1951, to the Starred Question No. 1935 asked by Shri S. N. Mishra.]

Dr. M. M. Das: In part (a) of my question I have asked about the financial commitments of the Government of India. May I know the exact nature of these financial commitments on behalf of the Government of India so far as the scheme of taking over this institution is concerned?

مولانا آزاد : ابھی قریب قریب ڈیڑھ لاکھ روپیہ سالانا اس انسٹیٹیوشن کو سینٹرل گورنمنٹ دے رھی ھے اگر یہ یونیورسٹی ھو گیا اور اس کا بل ھاؤس نے منظور کر دیا تو قریب قریب ساڈھے چار لاکھ روپیہ سالانا سینٹرل گورنمنٹ دے گی -

[**Maulana Azad:** At present the Central Government is giving an annual grant of one and a half lacs of rupees to this institution. In case it becomes a University and the Bill to that effect gets through this House, the Central Government will give an annual grant of four and a half lacs of rupees.]

Dr. M. M. Das: I understand that those amounts have been paid to the Institution as recurring grants for running the institution. By 'financial commitments' I mean any compensation to be given or the cost of maintaining a certain standard of the institution.

مولانا آزاد : اس ساڈھے چار لاکھ روپیہ میں دراصل اس طرح کا تمام خرچہ ھے -

[**Maulana Azad:** In fact this amount of four and a half lacs of rupees includes expenditure in respect of all such items.]

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government intends to bring forward a Bill declaring this an institution of national importance, and, if so, may I know when that Bill will be introduced and what will be the main provisions of that Bill?

مولانا آزاد : گورنمنٹ اس بل پر غور کر رھی ھے - کوشش ھماری یہ ھے کہ جلد سے جلد ھاؤس کے سامنے اسے رکھیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** The Bill is at present under the consideration of the Government and we propose to place it before the House at the earliest.]

Dr. M. M. Das: I wanted to know the main provisions of that Bill.

مولانا آزاد : بہت مشکل ھے کہ میں اس بارے میں ابھی کچھ کہہ سکوں -

[**Maulana Azad:** It is very difficult for me to state anything in this connection at this stage.]

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the copyrights of the works of Tagore were granted to this institution, may I know whether those copyrights will still remain with this institution?

Mr. Speaker: It is too early to say—let us have the Bill before us.

श्री चट्टोपाध्याय : मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि विश्वभारती में कालिज सेक्शन में आर्टस् और साइन्स में कितने लड़के पढ़ते हैं ?

[**Shri Chattopadhyay:** I want to ascertain the number of arts and science students respectively studying in the college section of *Visvabharati*?]

مولانا آزاد : اس کا جواب میں ابھی نہیں دے سکتا -

[**Maulana Azad:** Just now I am not in a position to reply to this question.]

ILMENITE

*2459. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a mineral known as Ilmenite is found in one of the places in Bombay State?

(b) If so, has licence been given to any person in the years 1949 and 1950?

(c) Have any raw materials been removed from this place and shipped to foreign countries during the above period and if so, what are the details?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presuming that the hon. Member refers to prospecting licence, the answer is in the negative.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri Sidhva: What kind of a licence has been granted if it is not a prospecting one?

Shri Sri Prakasa: No sort of licence has been granted—unless the hon. Member refers to an export licence that was granted; but that export did not materialise.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know whether any quantity has been exported and, if not, what has happened to that licence?

Shri Sri Prakasa: A licence was granted for the export of 1500 tons to Japan, out of which about 323 tons of this sand has reached Bombay. But it was brought to our notice that the sand that has been so brought to Bombay did contain monozite above the prescribed proportion. That is why export has been prohibited pending further examination.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the price of the quantity to be exported had been paid by the party concerned and also may I know when it was known that the sand was removed from the source?

Shri Sri Prakasa: As I said, the sand was not actually exported. A licence was granted for the export of 1500 tons to Japan but as we learnt that the sands contained a larger proportion of monozite than is permitted for export, we have stopped the export altogether and are examining the contents of this sand.

Shri Sidhva: Am I correct in understanding that no sand has been removed, or, if removed, it has been stopped at the Bombay port?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That is so. A quantity of 323 tons was brought to Bombay but it has been stopped in Bombay.

अणुशक्ति आयोग

* २४६३. **श्री जांगड़े** : क्या **प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री** यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ए) अभी तक अणुशक्ति आयोग द्वारा क्या कार्य किया गया है ; तथा

(बी) किन किन स्थानों पर इस कार्य के केन्द्र स्थापित किये गये हैं ?

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

[***2463. Shri Jangde:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the work so far done by the Atomic Energy Commission; and

(b) the places where centres of work have been established?]

प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री (श्री श्री प्रकाश) : (ए) और (बी) अनुसन्धान आयोग द्वारा जो कार्य अभी तक किया गया है, उस सम्बन्ध में पूरा वक्तव्य और साथ ही किन किन स्थानों में इस कार्य के केन्द्र हैं, उनकी सूची संसद के पटल पर उपस्थिति कर दी गई है।

[*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 2.]

[**The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa):** (a) and (b). A statement

showing the work done by the Atomic Energy Commission and the places where centres of work have been established is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 2.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विवरण के मौलिक आदेश और अनुसन्धान के (ग) खंड के दूसरे भाग में बताये गये विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान करने वाली संस्थाओं को कितना अनुदान दिया जा रहा है ?

[Shri Jangde: Will the hon. Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research please state the amounts of grants that are being given to the various research institutions mentioned in (ii) of part (b) under the 'Fundamental Instruction And Research' head of the Statement?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : पार साल इन अनुसंधानों के लिये ३१ लाख रुपया दिया गया था, जिस में से २७ लाख व्यय हुआ था और बाकी सरकार को वापिस दिया जा रहा है। आगे के साल के लिये ३६ लाख दिया गया है।

[Shri Sri Prakasa: Last year a total grant amounting to 31 lacs of rupees was sanctioned towards these researches out of which 27 lacs of rupees have actually been spent, the balance is being returned to the Government. For the coming year a sum of rupees 36 lacs has been sanctioned.]

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री यह बतलायेंगे कि भारत के किसी निश्चित् स्थान में थोरियम और बेरिल खनिज पदार्थ कहां पाये जाते हैं और यदि नहीं तो कौन से विदेशी राज्यों से आयात किये जाते हैं ?

[Shri Jangde: Will the hon. Minister please state whether thorium and beryl minerals are found in any part of India and if so, where? If not, then from which foreign countries they are being imported?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : यदि माननीय सदस्य वक्तव्य को पढ़ेंगे तो जो कुछ आप के प्रश्न हैं, उन सबका उत्तर मिल जायेगा।

[Shri Sri Prakasa: If the hon. Member were to go through the statement carefully he will find the reply to all his questions.]

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether a French Company to which Rs. 32 lakhs have been paid have brought the plant and installed it near about Mysore?

Shri Sri Prakasa: This question was replied to by the hon. the Prime Minister some time ago in this House and the answer that he then gave contained all the information that the hon. Member wants.

Shri Chaliha: My question is whether the plant has been brought and is going to be installed.

Shri Sri Prakasa: For fuller information I should like to have notice, but my information is that the plant is to be established in Alwaye in Travancore.

श्री जांगड़े : जैसा वक्तव्य में बताया गया है, 'The Commission is acquiring all the existing stocks of beryl in this country'. मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि भारत के कौन से हिस्से में वेरिल और थोरियम पाया जाता है और अगर नहीं पाया जाता है तो किन विदेशी राज्यों से मंगाया जाता है ?

[Shri Jangde: In view of the remarks that 'the Commission is acquiring all the existing stocks of beryl in this country', I want to know in what parts of the country thorium and beryl minerals are found and in case they are not found anywhere in India, then the names of foreign countries from which they are imported?]

श्री श्री प्रकाश : मुझे दुःख है कि इन सब प्रश्नों का उत्तर में एकाएक नहीं दे सकता। यदि एक दूसरे प्रश्न द्वारा माननीय सदस्य सूचना देंगे तो मैं उन को पूरा उत्तर देने का प्रयत्न करूंगा।

[Shri Sri Prakasa: I am sorry I am unable to reply all these questions offhand. If the hon. Member would give notice of a separate question, I will try to give him the necessary information.]

Shri Sidhva: Is it the intention of Government to manufacture the atomb bomb through this Atomic Energy Commission?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The production of weapons for mass destruction is not one of the aims of our Atomic Energy Commission.

Shri Sidhva: Good.

आधुनिक ग्राम

*२४६८. **श्री जांगड़े :** (ए) स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि सरकार ने केन्द्रीय प्रशासित क्षेत्रों में किन किन स्थानों पर आदर्श ग्राम बसाये हैं; तथा

(बी) इस प्रकार के आदर्श ग्रामों के निर्माण में विभिन्न विकास सम्बन्धी योजनाओं की किन किन रूपरेखाओं को ध्यान में रखा गया है ?

Model Villages

[*2464. **Shri Jangde:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the places in the Centrally Administered Areas, where Government have established model villages; and

(b) What aspects of the various developmental schemes have been incorporated in the lay out of such model villages?]

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) None so far. Some steps are being taken to develop Nangloi Jat in the Delhi State as a model village.

(b) A generating plant with a capacity of 55 kilowatts is being set up in the village. Half of the power will be utilised for agricultural purposes and the rest for street lighting and for providing electricity to public buildings such as hospital, panchayat ghars, etc. Tube wells are also to be constructed to provide adequate supply of water for cultivation purposes.

Shri Sonavane: In these model villages, is there any proposal to segregate the houses of the scheduled castes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Opium

*2465. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of smuggled opium seized or confiscated by the Government of Assam and deposited with the Government of India since the prohibition in the State; and

(b) what was the annual quota of opium supplied to the Government of Assam for selling to the consumers before the commencement of prohibition?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 3].

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know whether any amount has been paid to the State Government in return for the opium deposited by it?

Shri Tyagi: The State of Assam has prohibited the use of opium within its territory. I do not know how the question of paying any compensation to it arises.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Has the Government any intention to introduce a policy of opium prohibition throughout the Union?

Shri Tyagi: With regard to opium prohibition, it was in 1939 that the Assam Government stopped opium consumption in two Sub-Divisions and later on in 1942 they extended it to Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas. In 1948 they passed a law whereby they prohibited the use of opium in the whole of the State. So, it is the Assam Government themselves who prohibited the use of opium.

An Hon. Member: Very good of them.

Shri Saprawnga: Is it a fact that since the prohibition of opium the smuggling of opium has increased?

Shri Tyagi: As I have already stated, I have laid two statements on the Table. The total smuggling of opium since 1940-41 and up to 1950-51 has been 78 maunds and 33 seers.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is the policy of Government to impose prohibition of opium all over India?

Shri Tyagi: The policy of Government as I have said in one of my previous answers is that of reducing the internal consumption for non-medical and quasi-medical purposes

gradually by 10 per cent. every year so as to put a full stop to the use of opium for these purposes by 31st March 1959. As regards opium which is manufactured here for purposes of export to other countries, that will continue as far as opium for medical purposes is concerned.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri *rose*,—

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: The Members from Assam have a large number of questions to put.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was absent in this House when this question was pursued. He may read the proceedings and then table further questions.

NATIONAL SAVINGS SCHEME

*2466. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what is the net capital accumulated at present under the National Savings Scheme; and

(b) from which State the largest amount has been collected in 1950?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The net sales of National Savings Certificates up to the end of December 1950 amounted roughly to Rs. 128 crores.

(b) Bombay.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know what was the amount that various States Savings Organisations had made when the Central Government took over charge of this scheme from them?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I understand the hon. Member's question to be: "What was the amount collected by the various organisations when the work was taken over?". I am afraid I must ask for notice of the question, but I doubt if figures of this character will be available.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether Government is considering the appointment of paid agents to popularise this scheme in the various States?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Authorised agents have been appointed in the three States of Bombay, Madras and West Bengal as an experimental measure for a period of 15 months.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० वर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि वह कलेक्शन देहातों से कितना हुआ है ?

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** Will the hon. Minister please state the amount of such collections made from the rural areas?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : अभी तक तो देहातों से बहुत नहीं हुआ है लेकिन कोशिश की जा रही है ।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** So far the collections from the rural areas are concerned they are not much, but efforts are being made to this effect.]

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the amount collected in 1950 in the different States?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It would be possible to separate the figures by States and it is on that that the answer is based that the largest collections were in Bombay.

Shri A. C. Guha: What are the collections from the other States?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am afraid I have not got the figures here.

Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Government have considered any proposal of floating a Rehabilitation Savings Scheme in the interests of displaced persons to mobilise sympathy for D.Ps. on constructive lines?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No special collections have been made for displaced persons, if that is the question.

Lala Achint Ram: Has any attempt been made to mobilise public sympathy with a view to collecting funds for the rehabilitation of displaced persons?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a suggestion for action.

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya: Has the Government any intention of extending the paid agency system to other provinces also?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I said this has been undertaken as an experimental measure. If the experiment succeeds, it will certainly be extended; if it does not succeed, it will not be extended.

HEALTH ORGANISATIONS

*2467. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any practitioners of *Ayurvedic* or *Unani* or Homoeopathic systems of Medicine have been absorbed into State Health Organisations or in Centrally Administered Health Organisations as envisaged by the National Planning Committee and corroborated at the Health Ministers' Conference held in September, 1950; and

(b) if so, how many?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) 1,374 practitioners of *Ayurvedic, Unani* and Homoeopathic Systems of Medicine are employed in the State Health Organisations (except Bombay and Rajasthan whose replies are awaited) and in the Centrally Administered Areas.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what are the general views of the State Governments and the Medical Council of India as regards the absorption of *vaids, hakims* and homoeopaths?

Shri Kidwai: The very fact that *hakims, vaids* and homoeopaths have been employed by these State Governments goes to show that they approve the systems.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact, Sir, that the hon. the President of the Union has appointed a homoeopath, a *vaid* and a *hakim* as his physician?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a personal question.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government has accepted that Homoeopathic, *Unani* and *Ayurvedic* systems of medicine are separate systems of medicine having a scientific basis and as such should be treated on an equal footing with the Allopathic system?

Shri Kidwai: When the States have employed the practitioners of these systems of medicine, it means that it approves their employment.

लाल क़िला

*२४६८ **श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य :** (ए) शिक्षा मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सत्य है कि दिल्ली का लाल किला प्रत्येक दिवस दिन के समय दर्शकों के लिए खुला रहता है ?

(बी) यदि ऐसा है तो, क्या लाल किला में सेवायुक्त सरकारी कर्मचारियों को रविवार के दिन का अवकाश प्राप्त होता है अथवा नहीं ?

(सी) यदि उन्हें किसी दिन अवकाश नहीं दिया जाता है तो इसके कारण क्या हैं ?

(डी) लाल किले के सरकारी कर्मचारियों की सरकारी अवकाश सूची के अनुसार वर्ष में कितनी छुट्टियां दी जाती हैं ?

RED FORT

[*2468. **Shri B. S. Arya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Red Fort of Delhi remains open for the visitors every day during the day time?

(b) If so, do the Government servants employed in the Red Fort get the Sundays off or not?

(c) If they are not given any day off, what are the reasons thereof?

(d) According to the Government holidays list, how many holidays per year are provided for the Red Fort employees?]

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : (اے) ہاں - ۸ اے- ایم- سے ۱۱ اے. ایم- تک اور پھر ۴ پی. ایم - سے ۷ پی. ایم- تک گرمی میں لال قلعہ کھلا رہتا ہے- جاڑے میں ۱۰ اے- ایم - سے ۱ پی- ایم- تک اور ۳ پی- ایم- سے ۶ پی- ایم- تک-

(بی) لال قلعہ میں جو سرکاری نوکر ہیں انہیں مہینے میں دو اتواروں کی چھٹی ملا کرتی ہے -

(سی) یہ سوال پیدا نہیں ہوتا -

(ڈی) لال قلعہ کے ملازموں کو برس میں ۸ چھٹیاں بطائی روٹیشن ملا کرتی ہیں -

[**The Minister of Education Maulana Azad**]: (a) Yes, Sir. It remains open to the visitors from 8 A.M. to 11 A.M. and from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. in summer and from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 3 P.M. to 6 P.M. in winter.

(b) The Government servants employed in the Red Fort get two Sundays off in a month.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Red Fort employees are given 8 holidays in a year by rotation.]

श्री बी० ऐस० आर्य : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि महात्मा गांधी और सरदार पटेल की मृत्यु के समय किला बन्द नहीं किया गया जैसे कि दूसरे विभाग बन्द रहे ?

[**Shri B. S. Arya:** Are the Government aware of the fact that the Fort was not closed like all other Government Departments on the days Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel died?]

مولانا آزاد : میں اس بارے میں ابھی کچھ نہیں کہہ سکتا - میری معلومات میں یہ بات نہیں آئی ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** I am unable to state anything offhand. It has not come to my knowledge.]

PRESS CONFERENCES

***2470. Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state the number of press conferences held by the Press Information Bureau on behalf of various Ministries in the years 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Number of Press-Conferences arranged by Press Information Bureau on behalf of various Ministries.

Year	No.
1946	37
1947	30
1948	26
1949	30
1950	35

Shri Jagannath Das: May I know what was the expenditure involved?

Shri Diwakar: There was no special expenditure involved.

Shri Jagannath Das: May I know what steps were taken to provide the background material to these conferences?

Shri Diwakar: Each Ministry or the Minister concerned who holds these press conferences gives necessary material as well as replies to questions arising out of it.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether any expenditure was incurred over entertainment for the Press?

Shri Diwakar: That does not arise out of this question.

GRANTS TO MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH SOCIETIES

***2475. Maulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the names of the Museums, Historical Research Societies and cultural or Linguistic Societies, with amounts received by them as grants from Government during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) Was any grant given to Assam Museum, Gauhati, Assam *Sahetya Sabha*, Jorhat, and *Kamrup Anusaudhan* Society, Gauhati, during these years?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن :(مولاناآزاد)- (اے) ایک اسٹیٹمینٹ هاوس کی ٹیبل پر رکھ دیا گیا ہے -

[*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 22

(بی) - نہیں ان انسٹیٹیوشنس میں سے کسی انسٹیٹیوشن کی درخواست گرانٹ کے لئے گورنمینٹ کو ابھی تک نہیں ملی ہے -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 4].

(b) No application was received from any of these institutions for grants from Central Revenues.]

مولوی واجد علی : میں یہ جاننا چاهتا هوں که آسام اور سوال کے بی سینشن میں جو نام دئے گئے هیں ان کی درخواست آنے پر ان کو کنسیڈر کیا جائے گا ؟

[**Maulvi Wajed Ali:** May I know will the Government consider the applications if received from the institutions in Assam and from those mentioned in section (b) of the question?]

مولانا آزاد : اس بارے میں سنٹرل گورنمینٹ کے خاص قاعدے هیں انهیں قاعدوں کے مطابق وہ اس طرح کے

انسٹیٹیوشنس کو مدد دیتی ہے - اب اس وقت غور کیا جائے گا که ان قاعدوں کے اندر وہ آتے هیں یا نہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** The Central Government follow special rules for the sanction of grants to these institutions. It will then be considered whether they are covered by those rules or not.]

EDUCATIONAL CONCESSIONS TO DEPENDENTS OF DEFENCE SERVICE PERSONNEL

***2476. Shrimati Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the Government of India had sent some suggestions to the State Governments regarding the continuance of educational concessions to dependents of Defence Service personnel and if so, when?

(b) What were the suggestions?

(c) Is there any uniformity in the concession enjoyed by these Students, as a result of the recommendation of the Government of India?

(d) Have Government got any information as to the number of Students whose concessions were withdrawn as a result of the suggestions from Government?

(e) How many States have accepted the recommendation *in toto* and what are those States?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے)اور (بی)- هاں - گورنمینٹ آف انڈیا نے اگست ۱۹۴۸ میں اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کو لکھا تھا که ۱ اکتوبر ۱۹۴۸ کے بعد کوئی نئی درخواست منظور نه کی جائے - جو کنسیشن ڈفینس سروسیز پرسنل کے ان بچوں کو دیا جا چکا ہے جن کے سرپرست لڑائی میں مارے گئے هیں وہ اس وقت تک جاری رکھا جائے جب تک که اسکیم کے مطابق ان کی پڑھائی پوری نه هو جائے - ڈفینس سروس کے دوسرے آدمیوں کے بچوں کا تعلیمی کنسیشن اس وقت تک جاری رکھا جا سکتا ہے جب تک ان کا کورس پورا هو جائے خواہ وہ پرائمری هو خواہ مڈل خواہ کالج کا - لیکن انهیں لوگوں کا جو ۱ اکتوبر ۱۹۴۸ کی تاریخ کو پڑھ رہے هوں -

(سی) (قی) اور (ای)- پارٹ- ڈاے- اسٹیٹس میں سے ۸ نے اس کا جواب دیا اور جنرلی س سے اتفاق کیا - کتنے آدمیوں کو یه کنسیشن دیا گیا اور کہاں تک دیا گیا اور کتنوں کا وقت پڑھائی کا ختم هو چکا ہے اس بارے میں ضروری انفارمیشن سنٹرل گورنمینٹ کے پاس نہیں ہے - سنٹرل گورنمینٹ کا اس کنسیشن کے خرچ میں کوئی حصه نہیں تھا اس لئے پورا معاملہ اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں سے لگاو رکھتا ہے اور وهیں سے ساری باتیں معلوم کی جا سکتی هیں -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government made the following suggestions in August 1948:

(i) that no new application for these concessions should be entertained after the 1st October, 1948;

(ii) that concessions once granted should in the case of children and dependents of Defence Service personnel who have been killed or incapacitated as a result of war service be continued until their education is completed to the extent that existing schemes in the State allow; and

(iii) that concessions to children and dependents of other Defence Services personnel should be granted until the end of the particular course, Primary, Middle, High or College, which they were undergoing on October 1st, 1948, under the scheme in operation in the States.

(c) to (e). Only eight of the present Part 'A' States replied and they generally agreed with the suggestions made by the Government of India. Information is not available as to the actual concessions afforded by State Governments and the number of persons who ceased to have the benefits. As the

Central Government do not contribute any share of the expenses on the grant of these concessions, the matter concerns the State Governments entirely.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: I want to know whether prior to the recommendations from the Centre every student who received the concession was allowed to study up to Matric.

مولانا آزاد : میں نے ابھی یہہ کہا سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا اس سے کوئی تعلق نہیں ہے - یہ جو کچھ کنسیشن دیا ہے اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں نے دیا ہے - اسلیئے اس بارے میں سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کچھ نہیں کہہ سکتی -

[**Maulana Azad:** I have just stated that the Central Government are in no way concerned with this. The concessions in question have been given by the various State Governments. The Central Government, as such, are unable to state anything in the matter.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: I also want to know whether those recommendations sent have a uniformity in the giving of concessions.

مولانا آزاد : نہیں سینٹرل گورنمنٹ نے اس کی ضرورت نہیں سمجھی - معاملہ اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کے ہاتھ میں تھا اور وہ اپنے اپنے قاعدوں کے مطابق کام کر رہے تھے - سنٹرل گورنمنٹ نے صرف اس پر زور دیا کہ اکتوبر سنہ ۱۹۴۸ کے بعد نئی درخواست نہ منظور کی جائے -

[**Maulana Azad:** No, Sir, the Central Government did not feel any necessity for this. The matter lay entirely within the purview of the State Governments and they were following their own rules. All that the Centre did was to emphasise that no new applications should be entertained after October, 1948.]

Shri Rathnaswamy: In the case of failure of the students in the first year are these concessions renewed?

مولانا آزاد : میں اس بارے میں نہیں کہہ سکتا - اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں نے اپنے قاعدے بنائے ہونگے اور ان کے مطابق کنسیشن دیئے ہونگے -

[**Maulana Azad:** I am unable to state anything in this connection. The State Governments must have got their own rules which they might be following in granting such concessions.]

Shrimati Velayudhan: I want to know whether the position is that when one student can study up to the fourth class only another can study up to Matric, according to the recommendations from the Centre.

Mr. Speaker: There are no recommendations from the Centre. It is a matter entirely with the State Governments. He has made it clear more than once.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether such students are given any boarding facilities?

Mr. Speaker: We need not go into the details of the question.

Shrimati Velayudhan: May I know whether the State Governments act according to the recommendations from the Centre?

Mr. Speaker: But he has said there are no recommendations. I think we will proceed to the next question.

U.P.S.C. Examinations

*2477. **Shri S. V. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how many persons, taking advantage of the relaxation of age limits for those who participated in the National Movement, appeared for examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission in the years, 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(b) How many of these were selected in these years?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b).

Year	Number of candidates who appeared	Number of candidates selected.
1948	*Nil*	*Nil*
1949	7	*Nil*
1950	10	1

Shri S. V. Naik: Were there any other concessions given to these people except relaxation of age-limits and, if so, what were the other concessions?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The only relaxation was in the matter of age in cases where appearing for the examination had been prevented by political imprisonment or other reasons

referred to there. There were no other concessions.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether these concessions will apply only to those who have directly participated in the political movement or also to those who have suffered on account of their parents participating in it as a result of which they could not study?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The concession is not in the nature of a compensation for service rendered. But the concession is made in order to make up for loss of chance for appearing for the examination by reason of detention or imprisonment or otherwise.

Upgrading of Medical Departments

*2478. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain amounts have been set apart by the Government of India to assist medical institutions in India to upgrade certain of their departments;

(b) if so, what are the amounts, and to upgrade which of the specific departments these amounts are to be utilised; and

(c) to how many institutions, grants have been made uptill now, and also the amounts granted so?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A special Committee appointed by Government in this connection have made recommendations for the upgrading of specified departments of certain medical institutions in India and for the apportionment of the cost between the Central Government and the local authorities. A statement summarising the recommendations of the Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 5].

(c) A statement containing the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 5].

Shri S. V. Naik: In the statement under part (c) of the question the payments proposed to be made during 1950-51 by the Central Government are shown. Does it mean that the Government has not paid any of these amounts yet and that they are going to pay all these amounts within this week?

Shri Kidwai: Government has already paid certain amounts this year and has provided for Rs. 4.50,000 in the next budget.

Mr. Speaker: His point is that from the statement it appears to him that all the amounts provided for in the budget have not been paid up to the date of the statement and he wants to know whether it is the idea to pay them before the 31st March.

Shri Kidwai: Some of the amounts have been paid where the formalities have been completed. Others are under consideration and will be paid as soon as the formalities are completed.

Shri S. V. Naik: Page 3 of the statement states' about "payments made or proposed to be made during 1950-51 by the Central Government". I do not know what are the amounts paid and what are the amounts proposed to be paid. And there is only one week left for the financial year to finish. As such I want to know whether the Government is going to pay the whole amount during this week.

Shri Kidwai: I stated that some of them have been paid. For instance a grant of Rs. 1 lakh to one of the institutions, namely the Christian Medical College, has been sanctioned for payment during the current financial year.

National Stadium, Delhi

*2480. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have given any donation or loan for the construction of the National Stadium at Delhi; and

(b) if so, on what conditions?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri A. B. Gurung: What was the contribution made by the members themselves?

Mr. Speaker: Which members—Members of the House or of the Committee?

Shri A. B. Gurung: Of the Stadium.

Shri Tyagi: My friend had better address that question to the members.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government is giving any grant to the Board of Cricket Control in India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It does not arise.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Stadium built is on Government land?

Shri Tyagi: The Ministry of Works, Production and Supply are finalising the terms on which they have agreed to lease out the National Stadium to the National Sports Club. The Ministry of Works, Production and Supply have also agreed to lease out a plot of about nine acres near the National Stadium to the National Sports Club on a ground rent of Rs. 1,500 per annum. The nominal amount of ground rent is in consideration of the improvements the Club proposes to make to the Stadium at an estimated cost of Rs. 10 lakhs.

TAXES IN MADRAS

*2481. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state what is the amount given to the State of Madras during the years, 1949-50 and 1950-51, out of the collection of taxes in the merged States of Pudukottai, Banganapalli and Sandur?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No payments have been made as the State's share of the net proceeds of income-tax collected in the merged States remains to be determined.

CONFIRMATION OF SECRETARIAT STAFF

*2482. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government regarding confirmation of persons appointed in the Central Secretariat and its attached and subordinate offices, as a result of the Ministerial Services Examination held in 1945;

(b) whether all such persons have been confirmed;

(c) if not, why not; and

(d) whether there are any persons who failed in that examination, but have been confirmed?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (c). The Ministerial Services Examinations of 1945 were held to recruit persons to temporary posts of 'A' and 'B' grade clerks in the Secretariat and attached offices, and 'A', 'B' and 'C' grade clerks in the subordinate offices. In so far as persons nominated to Secretariat and attached offices are concerned, Government have decided that such of them as have completed three years service or more in these offices, and in whose cases the Ministries concerned certify that their services have been such as to merit confirmation, may be confirmed without any further examination in the grade of Assistants or III Division clerks, as the case may be. In the case of III Division Clerks it is necessary that they should pass a test in typing before confirmation. Persons nominated to subordinate offices are eligible for confirmation in accordance with the normal rules and orders in force in those offices.

Those who have satisfied these conditions have been or are being confirmed in due course.

(d) So far as the Secretariat and Attached Offices are concerned, persons who failed in the Examination held in 1945 may have been confirmed if they were eligible for confirmation on the results of examinations held in subsequent years, or under the special concessions given in favour of Scheduled Caste employees.

Shri Kamath: What was the total number of temporary hands employed on the basis of this examination in 1945, and how many have been confirmed so far?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I cannot give the total number, but the number of 'A' grade clerks confirmed in the Assistant's grade is 51 and the number of 'B' grade clerks confirmed in the Third Division is 33. We have not received any complaint from Government employees that their claims for confirmation on the basis of these orders have been overlooked, and it may be presumed that all persons who were entitled to confirmation have been confirmed.

Shri Kamath: How many are those who failed in the examination in 1945, but whose cases without any subsequent examinations have been taken up for confirmation?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is not possible for us to trace the career of those who failed and the identity of those who failed and those who appeared again.

HEALTH MINISTER'S CHARITY FUND

*2484. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Fund called the "Health Minister's Charity Fund" is to be built from public donations;

(b) by whom it will be administered;

(c) to whom, and over whose signatures, payments from the Fund will be made;

(d) whether an announcement regarding the Fund has been made in the *Gazette of India*, if so, why; and

(e) whether the creation of the Fund is the outcome of a Cabinet decision or the Health Ministry's own idea?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) By the Minister for Health, Government of India in consultation with the Secretary of the Ministry and the Director General of Health Services.

(c) Payments will be made to deserving institutions and individuals by the Minister for Health or by the Secretary of the Health Ministry.

(d) Yes. It has been published in the *Gazette of India* for the information of the general public and also to enable the Central Board of Revenue to exempt public donations to this Fund from income tax.

(e) The Fund was created after consultation with the Ministries concerned of the Government of India.

Shri Kamath: Which are the Ministries concerned?

Shri Kidwai: Health and Finance.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, are the terms and conditions on which donations or contributions have been invited from the public, and is there any precedent for such a fund?

Shri Kidwai: Charitably disposed persons who believe in the discretion of the Minister have placed certain funds at her disposal for the aid of the sick and the ailing.

Shri Kamath: What are the terms and conditions on which contributions have been invited from the public?

Shri Kidwai: The funds have been voluntarily placed at the disposal of the Minister of Health.

Shri Kamath: Does this decision of the Government mean that any Minister is at liberty to start a charity fund?

Mr. Speaker: How does that follow?

Shri Kamath: Because there is no precedent for this.

Mr. Speaker: That may be his opinion. Here is only an invitation to the public to contribute. The Government come in for exemption of tax.

Shri Kamath: Have the objects for which this fund will be utilised been defined in the notification?

Shri Kidwai: The object is to help certain institutions and also certain individuals who stand in need of getting medical treatment and cannot afford it.

Shri Kamath: Which officers will operate this fund?

Shri Kidwai: In my reply I have stated that the Minister in consultation with the Secretary of the Ministry and the Director General of Health Services will administer the Fund.

Shri Kamath: What is the size of the fund that is proposed to be built?

Shri Kidwai: The hon. Member will find it in the Statement that has been laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 41.]

RESIGNATIONS OF MEMBERS OF DISTRICT BOARD AND MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE OF AJMER, BEAWAR AND KEKRI

*2485. **Shri Asawa:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some members of the District Board and the Municipal Committee of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri, all of which have been reconstituted into nominated bodies, have tendered their resignations from these Bodies and what were the reasons given by them in their letters of resignation?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): Four members of the Ajmer Municipal Committee and one member of the Kekri Municipal Committee have resigned. They submitted their resignations generally as a protest against the principle of nomination. Some of them have also complained about the removal of Muslim members. There have been no resignations from the Ajmer District Board or the Beawar Municipal Committee. The Chief Commissioner hopes to be able to hold elections for these Municipal Committees on the basis of adult franchise by July 1951. The nominations were therefore, only of a temporary nature.

LIMNITE

*2486. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of materials containing Limnite is dumped in the southern parts of Travancore after extracting Monazite from them;

(b) whether the materials so dumped contain a high percentage of Titanium;

(c) whether a foreign company is engaged in extracting Monazite from the sand; and

(d) whether Government propose to nationalise the industry?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Presuming that the hon. Member refers to Ilmenite, the answer is in the negative.

(b) The question does not arise,

(c) No, Sir. Monazite is extracted only by the Travancore Minerals Concerns Ltd., which is State owned.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: May I know whether there is any proposal to nationalize those industries?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The question of the nationalization of the Travancore Mineral Industry is under the consideration of the Atomic Energy Commission at the present moment.

MULGAONKAR COMMITTEE

*2473. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the answer to my Starred Question No. 1175 asked on the 5th February, 1951 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision about placing a copy of the Mulgaonkar Committee Report on the Table of the House; and

(b) if so, what that decision is, and in case it has been decided not to lay it on the Table of the House, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). As replied on a previous occasion the report cannot for the present be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, are the reasons for the delay in placing this report on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: It is not delaying. It may not be placed.

Shri Kamath: Is it because, as the Minister stated last time that some matters are being examined and therefore it cannot be placed, and if so, may I know what matters are being examined?

Shri Kidwai: The report was examined by the Department and it has been sent to our legal adviser to give an opinion as to what action, if any, should be taken and unless his opinion is received and Government takes a decision, Government does not think it advisable to publish the report.

Shri Kamath: When was it sent to the legal adviser?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice of that, because I have not got all the dates as to when it was received from a particular officer and when it was sent to another officer and so on; all this requires careful research.

Shri Kamath: Am I to understand that it is not Government's intention to withhold it from the House?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kidwai: As soon as Government have considered it, it will be placed before the House and the public.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to get from European countries a person who is competent in these prefabricated houses so as to put the factory in its original order?

Mr. Speaker: The question refers only to the publication of the report. He is going into the merits of the question.

COAL SURVEY STATION AT KAMPTEE

*2474. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have proposed to meet the capital expenditure of Rs. 50,000 for equipment of a laboratory and the recurring expenditure of Rs. 50,000 per annum for the establishment of a Coal Survey Station at Kamptee in Madhya Pradesh to assess the quantity and quality of coal available in the State?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): The total capital expenditure for setting up the Regional Coal Survey Station at Kamptee is estimated at Rs. 1,00,000. Of this, the Madhya Pradesh Government have promised to provide Rs. 50,000 and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research will provide Rs. 50,000.

The recurring expenditure is expected to be Rs. 50,000 per annum and will be met by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Shri Kannamwar: May I know the progress made so far?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The preliminaries are fininshed, Sir, and within 3 to 6 months the Survey Station will start functioning.

Shri Kamath: Who is in charge of the Survey Station?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Does the hon. Member want the name of the person?

Shri Kamath: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I think it will be better to give the designation rather than the name.

Shri Sri Prakasa: I have the list of the staff that will be there.

Shri Kamath: Who is at the head of the station?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I am sorry, I do not know his designation yet.

Shri Kamath: What are his qualifications and previous experience in that line?

Mr. Speaker: Let us not go into details.

Short Notice Question and Answer

INDIAN INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION

Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian International Engineering Exhibition which is held in Delhi will be closed;

(b) whether all the exhibits of important engineering schemes, designs and models belonging to Union and State Governments be demolished;

(c) whether it is contemplated to remove these models to a permanent place for exhibition?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The Indian International Engineering Exhibition was closed on the 18th March 1951.

(b) Most of the exhibits and models of important engineering schemes on display in the various stalls of the State Governments are portable and are being taken away by the respective State Governments. The question of demolishing them does not arise. As regards the Gate and the Relief Map of India, proposals for preserving them are under the consideration of Government

(c) The Central Board of Irrigation propose to open an Engineering Museum in New Delhi; and the Board have requested the Exhibitors both from India and abroad to present such of their models and exhibits to this Engineering Museum, as they can conveniently spare. The response is encouraging and a large number of photographs and charts and a few models have been collected. For the present they are being placed in the Bikaner House and as soon as the permanent Museum is opened all these exhibits will be removed there.

I may add that the Yugoslavia Government are giving the whole lot of their exhibits to us.

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand that a new building will be started for keeping these exhibits permanently?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I believe some building will be necessary. If we could get hold of a suitable building, we would prefer that. If not, when a museum is started, some new building will also have to be constructed.

Shri Sidhva: May I know what was the contribution of the Government of India to this Exhibition?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The Government of India gave 2 lakhs; the State Governments gave 1½ lakhs; the industries gave by way of contribution one lakh. The total is 4·5 lakhs. When I say this, I include the Conferences that were held as well as the Exhibition. The Exhibition, luckily, has been self-supporting.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Government have any share in the gate money?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Unfortunately, no gate money is really left, because the total expenditure on the Exhibition was 10 lakhs and the income is also the same.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether the Delhi Municipality to which the Gate and the Relief Map were presented for keeping, has refused to accept them?

Shri Sri Prakasa: We are in correspondence with the New Delhi Municipal Committee as well as the Central Public Works Department and the Delhi Improvement Trust, on the subject. No decision has been taken.

Shri Ghule: May I know the income which the Government have had from the sale of tickets in the Exhibition?

Mr. Speaker: That is what he has answered just now.

Shri Sri Prakasa: If the hon. Member wants, "the break up", I can give that.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INSURANCE COMPANIES

*2456. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign Insurance Companies carrying on business in India:

(b) whether these Companies enjoy any special rights and privileges *vis-a-vis* Indian Insurance Companies;

(c) how many Indian Insurance Companies are carrying on business in foreign countries; and

(d) whether the Indian Insurance Companies carrying on business in foreign countries enjoy the rights and privileges at par with the local companies there?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The number of foreign Insurance Companies carrying on Life, fire, marine and miscellaneous insurance business in India as on 7th October 1950, was 20, 79, 56 and 55 respectively.

(b) None.

(c) The number of Indian Companies carrying on Life, fire, marine and miscellaneous insurance business in foreign countries (as on 31st December 1949) was 36, 34, 26 and 34 respectively.

(d) It is not possible to answer this question with reference to all the foreign countries in which Indian insurers carry on business, since the names of all such countries are not known. However, wherever such disabilities under local laws are known to exist, steps are taken under Section 62 of the Act to impose reciprocal restrictions on insurers of that particular country operating in India.

PERCIVAL PRENTICE PLANES

***2458. Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Percival Prentice planes repaired in India during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 uptill January; and

(b) the factories which repair the aircraft?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Repair work is now being carried out on two Prentice Aircraft: no such planes were repaired during 1949-50.

(b) Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., Bangalore.

COLLEGES IN PART C STATES

***2460. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of colleges in each of the Part 'C' States in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 6].

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

***2461. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the hon. Minister or his Deputy, (ii) the Public Servants or Officials of his Ministry; and (iii) members of the non-official public travelling on the work of, or in connection with the work of, the Ministry in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49, and 1949-50?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): I lay a statement on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 7].

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

***2462. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the hon. Minister; (ii) the Public Servants in his Ministry, and (iii) members of the Non-Official Public travelling on the business of, or connected with the work of, the Ministry, in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): A statement is placed on the Table of the House furnishing details of travelling expenses incurred by this Ministry. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 8].

DISPLACED TEACHERS FROM N.W.F.P. AND WEST PUNJAB

***2469. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the period of pre-partition service of the displaced teachers from the North West Frontier Province and the West Punjab, now employed in Delhi State, has not been counted and they are treated as new entrants; and

(b) whether it is a fact that certificates and diplomas granted by the pre-partition Punjab University to displaced teachers referred to in part (a) above have not been recognised in certain cases by the Delhi State Education Department?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) No, Sir, the pre-partition services of displaced persons have been taken into consideration for purpose of fixation of initial salaries in the new grades of the posts to which they have been appointed.

(b) No, Sir.

NUTRITION

***2471. Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the steps that have been taken by Government to implement the resolution on "Nutrition" which was passed in the Health Ministers' Conference held in 1948?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): A statement containing the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 9].

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

***2472. Ch. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state when was the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nutrition set up?

(b) What are its achievements during the last two years?

(c) What is its future programme of work?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) In January, 1947.

(b) The Committee is not vested with any executive powers or provided with funds. It is a purely consultative body and its main functions are to afford opportunities, from time to time, to the representatives of the different Ministries of the Government of India concerned with the various aspects of nutrition, to discuss amongst themselves the technical and other problems pertaining to human nutrition. Amongst the problems discussed by the Committee during the last two years were school feeding and conservation of food grains. Special memoranda on these subjects were drawn up by the Committee and circulated to all the State Governments.

(c) As will be seen from my reply to part (b) of the question, there cannot be a set programme before such a Committee.

DUES OF DISPLACED CONTRACTORS

***2479. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recovery of income-tax alleged to be due to and assessed by the Pakistan Government *ex parte* and otherwise has been made by the Government of India a condition precedent to the payment of dues of displaced contractors and suppliers of the Defence Services in respect of pre-Partition contracts and supplies in the territories now in Pakistan; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government are prepared to remove this anomaly and waive the condition?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Payments of prepartition claims are being withheld to the extent of income-tax dues from parties, in respect of whom recovery certificates have been received from Income-tax Officers in Pakistan. The hon. Member is referred in this connection to sub-sections (8) to (10) of Section 46 of the Indian Income-tax Act.

(b) There is no anomaly, as dues to Government cannot be ignored when claims due from Government are being settled. The entire question is, however, under examination, with a view to relieving hardship to refugees where it exists.

UNRECOGNISED SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES IN DELHI

***2483. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a large number of private unrecognised schools and colleges in Delhi; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the number of such schools and colleges and the number of students receiving education in such institutions?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) Since private institutions are not recognised by Government and are sometimes held in private houses, Government have no information regarding the number of such institutions and the number of students receiving education nor can they find it out without an expenditure of time, money and energy, which would not be justified by the results.

NUTRITIONAL CONDITION OF PEOPLE

144. Ch. Ranbir Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been adopted by Government during the last two years for improving the general nutritional condition of the people in the country and especially in the Centrally Administered Areas;

(b) what steps have been taken by Government in the year 1950-51 in Part 'C' States in regard to the following:

(i) Opening of nutrition centres and appointment of nutrition officers;

(ii) Diet and nutrition surveys and their results;

(iii) Supply of protective foods to the vumerable groups;

(iv) Research on nutritional problems;

(v) Prevention of adulteration of food-stuffs including milk;

(vi) Supply of mid-day meals to school-going children; and

(vii) Nutrition publicity and education in schools and colleges; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take on the above points in the year 1951-52 in Part 'C' States and other backward States?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement summarising the measures taken during the past two years is attached. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 10].

(b) and (c). Two statements containing the information received from Part "B" States are attached. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 11].

MINISTRY OF LAW (TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

145. Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the hon. Minister; (ii) the Public Servants or Officials of the Ministry; and (iii) members of the Non-official public travelling in connection with the work of the Ministry, in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post Partition), 1948-49, and 1949-50?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): A statement containing the information is laid on the Table.

STATEMENT

Expenditure on travelling allowances during the year

	1946-47		1947-48 (post partition)	
	In India	Out of India	In India	Out of India
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(i) Hon'ble Member/Minister.	4,286	..	1,255	..
(ii) The public servants or officials of the Ministry.	32,705	..	12,909	..
(iii) Members of the non-official public travelling in connection with the work of the Ministry.	NIL			

Expenditure on travelling allowances during the year

	1948-49		1949-50	
	In India	Out of India	In India	Out of India
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(i) Hon'ble Member/Minister.	966	..	5,763	..
(ii) The public servants or officials of the Ministry.	29,429	..	15,415	..
(iii) Members of the non-official public travelling in connection with the work of the Ministry.	NIL			

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES IN PART C STATES

146. Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the number of hospitals and dispensaries maintained at Public expense, or aided by Public funds, in each of the Part "C" States in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50, and the moneys spent on the same, in each of these years, directly from Public funds or by way of grants from Public Revenues?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX,, annexure No. 12].

CANTEEN BOARD (ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER)

47. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the answer to my unstarred question No. 111 asked on the 26th February, 1951 and state whether the Board of Administration, Bombay, of the Canteen Board suggested that the grade of the Administrative Officer be reduced from Rs. 1000—100—1500 to Rs. 700—50—1000?

(b) If so, what action was taken in the matters?

(c) What is the salary of the Administrative Officer and where was he previously employed?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Yes; the scale of Rs. 720—40—1000 was suggested with a view to giving this appointment to a specific individual in the Department.

(b) The individual recommended was not considered suitable and, accordingly, another individual was selected.

(c) The salary of the present incumbent is Rs. 950 p.m. He was previously employed as Assistant Private Secretary to the hon. Minister of Defence.

SUPERANNUATED SCIENTISTS

148. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of Scientists in various Ministries, who are still in service and who are superannuated?

372 P.S.

(b) Have all these superannuated employees fulfilled all conditions required under Memo. No. 60/314/48-Ests, dated 27th June 1949 of the Ministry of Home Affairs?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to persons who are employed in posts which require specialised scientific knowledge. There are no superannuated persons employed in such posts under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Information relating to other Ministries is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 26th March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEPUTY CHIEF CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS AT MADRAS

*2487. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to open an office of the Deputy Chief Controller of Imports at Madras; and

(b) if so, the reasons for it?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). There was already an organisation for the import and export control work at Madras as at the ports of Bombay and Calcutta. This organisation was, however, functioning under the control of Collector of Customs, Madras who was *Ex-Officio* Import and Export Trade Controller at that port. Recently however with the declaration of Cochin as a major port and other developments the charge of the Collector of Customs increased and further as a result of decentralisation which took place in July, 1950 there was an enormous increase of work on the Import Trade Control side also. The Collector of Customs at Madras could not be expected to handle all the additional duties devolving upon him. Taking all the factors into account a separate post of Deputy Chief Controller of Imports and Exports was sanctioned for the port of Madras just as it has been obtaining at Bombay and Calcutta ports with effect from the 10th November, 1950.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know in what other places such offices are going to be created?

Shri Karmarkar: There is no idea at the present moment of creating any additional offices.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What would be the cost of this Madras office?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the port of Cochin has been declared as a major port, and whether it is functioning under the Major Ports Act?

Shri Karmarkar: My information is contained in the answer; I could not usefully add to it at the moment.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will there be any corresponding decrease in the Central office in Delhi?

Shri Karmarkar: Not, Sir; not at the moment. In the ultimate, when the work of decentralisation is completed, we hope to make a small reduction; that won't be substantial.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know when the effects of opening the Madras office will be felt so far as the Central Import Control office is concerned in the matter of economy?

Shri Karmarkar: I think, during the course of this year.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS TO AND FROM HONGKONG

*2488. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total values of India's exports and imports from Hongkong in the year 1950?

(b) What are the articles of our exports to and imports from Hongkong?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a)

and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIX, annexure No. 13.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the trend, both in exports and imports, is on the increase or on the decrease?

Shri Karmarkar: I think, I speak subject to correction, it is just steady. The details are given in the Statement. Subject to verification, I think the trend is steady. There is neither an abnormal increase nor an abnormal decrease except that we are not sending jute goods to Hongkong.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether we have any Trade Agent in Hongkong?

Shri Karmarkar: Not to my knowledge; I am not sure of the information.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether the full quota of jute could not be exported in time owing to circumstances beyond the control of the exporters and whether in any such case time for export has been extended?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether exports from India are re-exported to the main land of China or any other country?

Shri Karmarkar: That is not impossible; I have no definite information on that point. Hongkong is a neutral port; exports may take place.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any of the merchandise exported to Hongkong has been held up by Nationalist China forces?

Shri Karmarkar: Not to my knowledge.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the amount of rice and bran imported into India from Hongkong?

Shri Karmarkar: Rice does not appear as one of the articles of import; nor bran.

TANNERY WOOL (TRANSPORT)

*2489. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the tannery wool produced in the States of Madras and Mysore is allowed to be freely transported to other places in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): The tannery wool produced in the States of Madras and Mysore cannot be transported to any destination other than Bangalore, Wallajah and Salem, except under a permit issued by the Director of Industries, Madras or Mysore as the case may be.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the reason for banning the transport of tannery wool to other parts?

Shri Mahtab: The reason is this. Some time back, the wool Advisory Board recommended that this tannery wool should be diverted only to factories where the drugget industry is carried on, and that otherwise, this wool gets mixed up with carpet wool in Northern India, and the carpet manufacturer gets a bad name in the market. In accordance with the advice tendered to the Government of India by the Advisory Board, this step has been taken.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know the total quantity produced and the quantity exported?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry that figure is not available now.

BUILDING COMMISSION FOR ASSAM

*2490. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have appointed a commission to examine the construction problem in the "seismically unstable" areas in Assam?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): No. The question of setting up such a commission is for the Government of Assam to consider. That Government are being advised to do so by the Government of India.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the approximate number of houses which have been demolished during the last earthquake?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice.

HOLIDAY TO EMPLOYEES ON 26TH JANUARY

*2491. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have issued instructions to all industrialists to give a holiday with pay on the 26th January 1951 to the employees?

(b) If so, how many industrialists have carried out these instructions?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes. Government of India advised the industrial employers

to grant an additional paid holiday on the 26th January, 1951 where this was not already included as one of the regular holidays in the undertakings.

(b) Enquiries made of the State Governments indicated that industrialists in general allowed their employees paid holiday on the occasion. In a few cases the employers are reported not to have accepted the suggestion while in some others workers were compensated in lieu of a holiday for this day. In Central sphere an Oil Company in Assam and a number of colliery owners in Dhanbad and Jharia are reported not to have observed the day as a paid holiday.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know whether the Government is aware that the colliery owners have paid only one rupee per head against their wages for one day and if so, what steps does Government propose to take to get one day's wages for these labourers?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have indicated, most of the collieries have not allowed this holiday, nor compensated the workers. In a few cases, they have compensated, but that compensation is not up to the daily average earning of the workers.

Shri R. L. Malviya: In view of the fact that the appeal of the Government to observe paid holidays has not received adequate response from the colliery owners and some others, does Government propose to include these holidays as paid holidays in the Mines Bill and the Factories Act?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think a statutory provision will solve the difficulty. Even under the Factories Act, we have a certain number of days as statutory holidays. This holiday was to be observed in addition to those where it was not included in the holidays. The question as to what action should be taken where they have not observed this day as a holiday is under the examination of the Government. As a matter of fact, in one case, we have referred the matter to adjudication.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know the total number of holidays that are at present being given?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I will refer my friend to the Factories Act so far as the factories are concerned and the Mines Bill which is pending before Parliament so far as the mines are concerned.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these instructions were merely of an advisory nature as regards the holiday on the 26th January, 1951 or compulsory? If the latter, may I know whether Government intends to take action against those who have not given the holiday?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It was, no doubt, an advice tendered to the employers; but it has some force as a compulsory one. Most of the employers have observed that. In a few cases where it was not observed, the matter is under examination and action will be taken.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know why instructions were issued only in regard to the holiday on the 26th January, 1951, and not for any year?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: You will find that in a large number of units, 26th of January has been included as a regular holiday, and there is no occasion for issuing instructions. Last year, instructions were issued and this year also instructions were issued. In the future if it is felt necessary, instructions will be issued.

ENEMY PROPERTY

*2493. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the amount of India's property in the hands of any enemy country?

(b) Is there any understanding for the restoration of such properties after the cessation of hostilities?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, why have not such properties yet been disposed of in that manner?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Identifiable Indian-owned property in former belligerent countries has been valued at approximately 117 lakhs of rupees. In addition, claims of various kinds by Indians amounting to Rs. 501 lakhs have also been registered.

(b) and (c). Certain arrangements have been made by the Allied Occupation Authorities in Germany and Japan for the restitution of Identifiable property in those countries owned by Allied nationals, including Indians. As regards other countries, property agreements for the settlement of war time debts and claims on either side have been concluded in several cases, and the release of the respective assets is being progressively effected.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, may I know whether India also had some enemy property here?

Shri Mahtab: Yes.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether they have been restored?

Shri Mahtab: Not yet. Unless peace treaties with these countries are concluded, these matters cannot be finally settled; and situated as we are, India being connected with the Allied Powers, she cannot have independent arrangements with these countries.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that former German property is still treated as enemy property in spite of the fact that India has terminated the state of war with Germany?

Shri Mahtab: I would require notice of that question. So far as I remember, the question of property will be finally settled only when the peace treaty is concluded.

Shri Sidhva: May I know which are the countries whose properties are in India and with whom we have concluded peace treaties, as in the case of Germany?

Shri Mahtab: Enemy properties can be divided into three categories—(1) property owned by belligerent countries with whom peace treaties have not been concluded, (2) property owned by countries with whom peace treaties have been concluded and (3) property in countries which were formerly occupied by the enemy. The total value of such properties in India is Rs. 822 lakhs, but I do not have the individual names of the countries.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, is it a fact that some of these porperties have been sold and if so, what is the value of the property thus sold?

Shri Mahtab: That relates to property in India, but the question here is about property of Indians in other countries. I am sorry I do not have that information available with me.

SALT

*2494. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a). Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the total quantity of salt consumed every year in India?

(b) How do the unlicensed small scale manufacturers contribute to our supply of salt?

(c) Is the nationalisation of salt industry in the contemplation of Government?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The consumption has been increasing from year to year. The figures of consumption for the last two years and the estimated consumption for the current year are as follows:

Year	Quantity in lakh maunds.
1949 ...	648
1950 ...	684
1951 (Estimated) ...	714

(b) The small scale manufacturers produced about two per cent. of the total output in 1950.

(c) No.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the total quantity of salt produced in 1950, and the quantity produced in government sources and how much from private sources?

Shri Gadgil: In 1950 the government factories produced 194·3 lakh maunds and private factories 505·9 lakh maunds and the estimated production in unlicensed small-scale manufacturers was about 13·0 lakh maunds, the total being 713·2 lakh maunds.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the amount of salt imported in 1950?

Shri Gadgil: I think that question was answered by me a few days back; it was about 30 lakhs maunds mostly from Aden and about 1½ lakh maunds from Pakistan.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the new development schemes that have begun producing salt now, I mean development schemes of the Government?

Shri Gadgil: Our attention at present is directed towards reorganising the government factories, and there is a proposal that the government factories should be so reorganised that more production will be secured. This is under consideration and nothing definite can be stated at this stage.

Shri A. B. Gurung: Sir, what is the quantity of salt imported into India from Pakistan?

Shri Gadgil: I stated it.

Shri A. B. Gurung: I could not follow that part of the answer.

Shri Gadgil: I said about 30 lakh maunds were imported mostly from Aden and about 1,50,000 maunds from Pakistan.

Shri B. K. Das: How far the scheme of salt production in the coast of West Bengal has progressed?

Shri Gadgil: Sir, I require notice.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What quantity was imported by Eastern Pakistan from India and has that export stopped?

Shri Gadgil: There is no export of salt to Eastern Pakistan from India. And as regards the export figures in the past year by year, I would require notice.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि यद्यपि नमक यहां पर अधिक उत्पन्न होता जा रहा है, इतने पर भी कई स्थानों पर अनेक बार नमक का दुर्भिक्ष हो जाता है, यदि यह बात सही है, तो इसका कारण क्या है और इसको दूर करने में माननीय मंत्री जी क्या कर रहे हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that the supply of salt often falls short at several places in spite of its increasing production? If so, what are the reasons thereof? What steps are being taken by the Government to remove this salt shortage?]

श्री गाडगिल : यह बात सही है, इस का कारण यह है कि व्यापारी वर्ग बिलकुल मुनाफे को दृष्टि में सामने रखकर बर्ताव करते हैं और इसके लिये हम सोच रहे हैं कि सारा डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन स्टेट के हाथ में रहे ।

[**Shri Gadgil:** It is a fact; the reason is that the business community always aims at profiteering while transacting business. It is contemplated, therefore, that the entire distribution should rest with the State.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलायेंगे कि नमक·····

[**Seth Govind Das:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether salt.....]

Mr. Speaker: We go to the next question.

DISPOSAL OF COTTAGE INDUSTRY GOODS

*2495. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there is any Committee in America maintained by the Government of India to arrange the disposal of cottage industry goods from India?

(b) Who are the Members of the Committee?

(c) How much does it cost Government per year?

(d) What is the amount of benefit that India obtains through this Committee and is that commensurate with the expenditure incurred on it?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (1) Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Ambassador of India in U.S.A.—President.

(2) Mrs. B. K. Nehru—Executive Chairman.

(3) Mr. B. K. Nehru, Financial Counsellor, Embassy of India and Executive Director for India in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development—Member.

(4) Mr. A. R. Palit, Director, India Supply Mission, Washington—Member.

(5) Mr. P. L. Bhandari, Public Relations Officer in Washington—Member.

(6) Mr. A. B. Bhadkamkar—Secretary.

(c) All the members of the Committee are working in an honorary capacity and as such no cost is incurred on account of the Committee except on one full time clerk and occasional travel by the Executive Chairman.

(d) It is too early to assess the exact benefit that is obtained through the Committee, but the expenditure incurred on the Committee is negligible as compared to the benefits expected to be derived.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Sir, may I know why this special arrangement in America? Is there any special market for our products there?

Shri Mahtab: That will be known by and by. As I have said, we are trying to find out a market there. That is the position to-day.

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): I should like to add a little further to that answer, Sir. As a result of our exhibition there it was disclosed to us that there is a very good market for our goods there. But the principal difficulty in our way is that American

merchants want the articles on a mass scale. They want large mass production of the particular kinds of articles which we are able to supply. But it is clear that there is a very good market for some of our products in America.

Shri Shiva Rao: Sir, as a result of the activities of this Committee and also due to India's participation in the International Exhibition at Chicago, is it not a fact that a number of promising enquiries have been sent to various industries in India?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, that is so; and we are very happy to say that the services rendered by Mrs. Nehru and Mrs. Shiva Rao were very much commended.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I know if complaints have not been received that the Ministry in India is not co-operating with sufficient energy in this matter?

Shri Karmarkar: That is not the fact. We have given our best co-operation.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the valuation of the trade between India and the United States during the last year with respect to the cottage industry products?

Shri Mahtab: So far as valuation is concerned, that will not be encouraging at the present moment, but we are at the trial stage.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: May I know what varieties of handicrafts have found a market there?

Shri Mahtab: I have not got the information regarding the varieties with me here. Certain varieties will probably find a market there.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether attempts have been made to create markets in other countries also and do Government propose to have such committees in other countries also besides the U.S.A.?

Shri Mahtab: No.

SPORTS GOODS INDUSTRIALISTS

*2496. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the sports goods industrialists who migrated to the Indian Union after partition have re-established their manufacturing centres in India?

(b) If so, where are those centres located?

(c) Are all the items of the sports goods being produced regularly?

(d) If not, what are the names of items which are not produced at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir, most of them.

(b) Meerut and Agra in Uttar Pradesh; Jullunder and Batala in the Punjab and Delhi.

(c) and (d). Yes, excepting Tennis balls and Golf balls.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Has a sectional committee been formed to look to the standards of the sports goods that are exported to the hard currency areas?

Shri Mahtab: I do not think any such committee has been formed.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Are Government laboratories checking the quality of these products from the various units?

Shri Mahtab: I require notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Have the industries come under the purview of the Cottage Industries Board?

Shri Mahtab: This has not come under the Cottage Industries Board.

Lala Achint Ram: What is the help which the Department of Industries and Commerce is giving to those displaced industrialists to establish themselves, particularly in the items which they have not been able to produce so far?

Shri Mahtab: The usual assistance is given to these industries as is given to other industries. We help them in obtaining raw materials, in securing plants and machinery and giving them technical advice, etc.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is the Minister aware of the fact that a few years ago hockey sticks were exported in large quantities from this country and, if so, what is the position in regard to the export of these hockey sticks at present?

Shri Mahtab: That information is not with me at present but I shall be able to supply it, if needed.

Shri S. C. Samanta: How many manufacturers and traders' associations have been formed in these sports goods since the Partition?

Shri Mahtab: I do not know how many associations have been formed but 189 factories are working now.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I take it that no associations have been formed and that it is not within the knowledge of the Government?

Shri Mahtab: I have no information.

DIESEL OIL

*2497. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state.

(a) the total quantity of our annual import of diesel oil and its value in Indian currency;

(b) whether any import duty is collected and if so, what is the annual collection;

(c) what are the countries from which diesel oil is imported; and

(d) whether there is any substitute for diesel oil, natural or artificial that can be produced in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 14.]

(b) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the amount of import duty collected in the last three years is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 15.]

(d) Yes, Sir. Groundnut oil, cotton seed oil and mustard oil (rape seed oil) are all good substitutes for Diesel oil and are produced in India.

I should add to the answer that they have been found to be uneconomic at present.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it a fact that mustard oil can be used in place of deisel oil as fuel?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. Experiments are being carried on and it has been found that subject to some processes these are very suitable as fuels. Under the auspices of the U.P. Government both at the Government technical institute and in the Jail Department arrangements have been made to change over from Deisel oil to vegetable oils. The experiments are going on.

Dr. M. M. Das: Comparing the import figures of 1949-50 and 1950-51 I find that the total import has gone up by 100 per cent. May I know the reason for the increased import?

Shri Karmarkar: If the hon. Member reads the statement he will see the figures given there. The value of imports in 1948-49 .....

Dr. M. M. Das: I am speaking of the quantity.

Shri Karmarkar: The quantities have also varied—from 76,000 in 1948-49 to 136,000 and for nine months in 1950-51 1,00,000. The last item is only for nine months.

Dr. M. M. Das: I want the reason why the import has gone up by 100 per cent.?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not able to appreciate that question, because the figure for 1949-50 was 136,000 and for nine months in 1950-51 it is 100,000. I do not see how the figure has doubled?

Dr. M. M. Das rose—

Mr. Speaker: Now we are entering into an argument about the interpretation of the figures.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, he has not understood my question.

Mr. Speaker: If he has not understood the question, let us proceed to the next question. The hon. Member can ask for any information if he wants.

Dr. M. M. Das: In 1948-49 the total value was 294 lakhs and the import duty collected was 31,59,000. In 1949-50 the total value of the import was about 7 crores but the import duty collected was Rs. 45 lakhs. Why this discrepancy?

Shri Karmarkar: That is a good question but I should like to have notice.

Shri Chaliha: Which is the State in which this artificial oil is being used?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as we know it is only in the U.P. that experiments in these three oils I mentioned are being carried on.

Shri Chaliha: Has it been successful or was it a failure?

Mr. Speaker: That would be a matter of opinion.

Dr. M. M. Das: Comparing the import figures from Iran I find that it has gone up in relation to the year 1948-49. The Import has gone up by 15 per cent. whereas the price is nearly double.

Shri Karmarkar: Obviously the reason is that the price is double in respect of the 15 per cent. more of the commodity.

MRS. ILA MITRA

*2498. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report of court

proceedings against Mrs. Ila Mitra, given on page 1 of the *Blitz* dated the 23rd of December 1950, in which details are given of the tortures inflicted on the party mentioned above?

(b) If so, has the matter been communicated to the hon. Minister for Minority Affairs, and his attention drawn to the case?

(c) Has any representation been made to the Government of Pakistan by our Minister for Minority Affairs, with special reference to the unhappy reaction of such cases on the relations between the two countries?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Yes. In reply to a representation made by our Central Minister for the implementation of the Prime Miniters' Agreement, the Pakistan Government have stated that an enquiry was made into this matter personally by the District Magistrate of Rajshahi and the allegations of torture of Mrs. Ila Mitra by the Police were found to be altogether false. Our Minister is pursuing the matter further with the Pakistan Government.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I know if the full text of the detailed proceedings in the court were received by our Minister and, if so, whether there was anything in those proceedings to show that the allegations made by Mrs. Mitra were false?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say at once whether our Minister received the full text of the proceedings or not but I imagine he must have seen a fairly full report of it. Without enquiring I cannot give the hon. Member a correct answer.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the nature of the tortures inflicted on this lady?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter which was published in the *Blitz* in December last and it referred to torture.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it a fact that this lady made a statement in the court alleging all these things and did the Government take any steps to verify the allegations and take action?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There is a difference of opinion in regard to the contents published in the newspapers.

Shri A. C. Guha: The lady made a public allegation in the court.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has said that enquiries are being made through our Deputy High Commissioner in East Pakistan.

Shri Kamath: Did our Minister, Mr. Biswas, ask for permission to see Mrs. Mitra either himself or through one of his officers or through the Deputy High Commissioner and was that permission refused by the Pakistan Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have no information on that subject. As soon as it came to our notice through some newspapers that these allegations had been made we immediately got into touch with our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca and asked our Minister Mr. Biswas to pursue the matter Meanwhile the case was taken up in court there and I understand that the court has concluded its hearing and has decided against Mrs. Mitra. That is not in regard to this allegation but in regard to other matters against her. While we are pursuing these enquiries with the Pakistan Government it is rather difficult for us, in the circumstances, to do anything when the matter is before one of the courts of Pakistan.

Reparations from Germany and Italy

*2500. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the machinery and other articles so far received from Germany and Italy as reparations?

(b) What was the estimated price of these?

(c) How have these been utilised?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) India has received 10,430 articles of machinery from Germany as reparations. These comprise mostly general purpose machine tools such as lathes, drilling machines, shapers, planers etc.

No reparation stores have been received from Italy.

(b) Rs. 2·45 crores approximately.

(c) Most of the stores have been allocated to Government Departments, States, Educational and Research Institutions.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any complete machinery for the production of ammonia? Also, was there a complete steel furnace for manufacturing steel by the Bessemer process?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry that information is not available.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there no complete machinery received which could manufacture these articles?

Shri Mahtab: The description of the machines is not here with me.

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know whether any part of these reparations has been allotted to the Chittaranjan Works?

Shri Mahtab: I have said the other day in reply to a similar question that all these machineries have been allocated to the Railway Ministry, the Communications Ministry and the Defence Ministry. I don't know whether anything has gone to Chittaranjan, but the Railway Ministry have taken a large portion of the reparations machineries.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, my question was whether was any complete factory, and, if so, how such complete factories have been utilised by the Government.

Mr. Speaker: I think that is covered by his reply.

Shri A. C. Guha: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He said he has no information on that point. As regards utilisation, he said the reparation articles had been distributed to the three Ministries etc. but that he has no information as regards the use to which they have been put.

Shri Mahtab: Yes, Sir, I have no information about the exact nature of the use to which they have been put.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that a particular part of the machineries received was so heavy that we had to make special arrangements for its unloading from the ship?

Shri Mahtab: Yes, that is correct.

Orders with Foreign Countries

*2501. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the past two years, as well as at present, orders have been placed by Government directly with manufacturers or manufacturers' representatives in foreign countries instead of through our Supply Missions and Trade Commissioners?

(b) If so, what was the nature and circumstances of such orders?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes, Sir, but only in a few cases.

(b) A statement showing the details of the nautre and circumstances of the orders is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 16.]

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that the materials and equipment for the prefab. factory were ordered without the aid of the Supply Mission?

Shri Gadgil: Yes, that is so. It is stated in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any decision has been arrived at in regard to the settlement of the dues on the import of these prefab. materials?

Shri Gadgil: The matter was referred to arbitration and a compromise was arrived at under which the Company has promised to pay Rs. 4·5 lakhs out of which Rs. 2,36,800 have already been realised as that amount was with one of the Banks as guarantee money.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the amount which has not been realised has to be written off, or whether there is any chance of its realisation?

Shri Gadgil: The amount which will represent the net loss in the whole transaction will be about Rs. 2 lakhs, and that is the price for wisdom purchased through experience.

Shri Kamath: Was the amount mentioned by the Minister with regard to the prefab. Swedish huts or the factory?—huts, I believe, and not the factory?

Shri Gadgil: It refers to the prefab. stalls and huts, not to the prefab. factory.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government of India has deputed any officer for purchasing anything abroad recently, and, if so, what amount has been placed at his disposal?

Shri Gadgil: Purchase of what?

Shri R. Velayudhan: For stockpiling.

Shri Gadgil: Well, a very high officer has gone, but it is not in public interest to state the purpose and the exact details of the same.

Shri T. N. Singh: Besides the prefab. factory, may I know which is the next big enterprise for which imports have been made without the aid of the Supply Mission?

Shri Gadgil: The statement which I have laid on the Table gives the details. It includes Chipmunk aircraft and aircraft frames, Gypsy Major Engines and spares, locomotive tubes, tubes boiler, etc., etc.

Shri Sidhva: What are the amounts involved?

Shri Gadgil: There are nine items the respective expenditure on which is as follows:

First item	...	$	4,22,294	0	0
Second item	...	£	10,341	8	0
Third item	...	£	1,552	12	0
Fourth item	...	£	2,903	18	0
Fifth item	...	£	24,656	16	8
Sixth item	...	£	12,610	0	0
Seventh item	...	£	1,913	6	7
Eighth item	...	£	203	15	0
Ninth item	...	£	11,84,000	0	0

INSURANCE AGAINST OLD AGE, SICKNESS AND UNEMPLOYMENT

*2502. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the number of factories where insurance against old age, sickness and unemployment have been introduced?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to pages 350-51 and 360-61 of the main report of the Labour Investigation Committee. The Government have no other information.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि जहां तक बेकारी का सम्बन्ध है वहाँ तक बेकारी कई जगह गवर्नमेंट की छटनी के सबब से होती जा रही है ?

[Seth Govind Das: Is the hon. Minister aware that as far as unemployment is concerned, it has been spreading on account of the retrenchment done by the Government?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : जी हां, ऐसा है।

[Shri Jagjivan Ram: Yes, Sir; it is so.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट को यह बात मालूम है कि एक ही जगह गवर्नमेंट की एक फैक्टरी में छटनी होती हैं और उसी जगह गवर्नमेंट की दूसरी फैक्टरी में नये आदमियों की भरती होती है और क्या गवर्नमेंट इस मामले में कोई बात इस प्रकार की करना चाहती है कि जो छटनी के लोग हैं वे दूसरी जगह भरती कर लिये जांय ?

[Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware of the fact that while some employees are retrenched in a Government factory, others are recruited in another factory at the same place? If so, do the Government propose to take such steps as may enable the retrenched staff to be recruited elsewhere?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : ऐसा कुछ कुछ होता है, और ऐसा होना अनिवार्य भी है इसलिये कि जिस तरह के आदमी हटाये जाते हैं, सम्भवतः उस वक्त उसी तरह के नये आदमी नहीं लिय जाते हैं : बल्कि दूसरे काम के आदमी लिये जाते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी माननीय सदस्य ने जो सुझाव रखा है उस पर विचार हो रहा है।

[Shri Jagjivan Ram: Something of the kind does take place and it is but inevitable in view of the fact that probably the same type of employees are not recruited as are retrenched. Still, however, the suggestion made by the hon. Member is being considered.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are now entering into an argument. He may ask for information.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट को यह बात मालूम हैं कि जब्बलपुर के सी० ओ० डी० में उसी तरह के आदमी निकाले गये जिस तरह के आदमी कि वहां की ही खमरिया की फैक्टरी में भरती किये जा रहे हैं ?

[Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware of the fact that in the C.O.D. at Jubbulpore the same type of persons have been retrenched as are being recruited in the local factory at Khamaria?]

श्री जगजीवन राम : यह सूचना इस वक्त तो मेरे पास नहीं है, लेकिन मैं देखूंगा।

[Shri Jagjivan Ram: This information is not readily available with me. I would, however, look into the matter.]

Shri Rathnaswamy: Do Government contemplate any statutory measures to enforce these beneficial measures in the factories?

Mr. Speaker: I do not follow what he means.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Do Government propose to take any steps to enforce these beneficial measures in the factories where they don't exist now?

Mr. Speaker: The question is not clear to me.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Nor to me.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question then.

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION IN RAJASTHAN

*2503. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the scheme of construction of houses in Rajasthan is being held up for want of help from the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): No.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेन्ट को यह बात मालूम है कि जैपुर के दुर्गापुरा और उदयपुर के प्रताप नगर दोनों स्थानों का काम इसलिये बन्द हो रहा है कि वहां आगे कोई रुपया नहीं मिल रहा है और वहां का काम अधूरा पड़ा हुआ है ?

[Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware that work both at Durgapura in Jaipur and Pratapnagar in Udaipur has been held up and has remained uncompleted simply for the reason that no further amount of money is being received?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : दुर्गापुरा में तो कोई काम था ही नहीं। वहां तो कभी एक कैम्प था और वह करीब करीब तितर बितर हो गया। कोई नये मकान वहां नहीं बन रहे हैं। रहा प्रताप नगर का, वहां इतने रुपये की गड़बड़ हुई, इतना रुपया गबन हुआ है कि हम लोगों ने वहां के लिये आगे रुपया देना बन्द कर दिया है। उन के ऊपर एनक्वायरी भी बैठी हुई है और मुकदमा भी चलेगा।

[Shri A. P. Jain: At Durgapura there was no work at all. There was only one camp which has now been more or less dispersed. No new houses are being constructed there. As regards Pratapnagar, we have stopped advancing any further aid in view of vast misappropriation and embezzlement of money that took place there. In this connection an enquiry is being held and the defaulters will be prosecuted.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : प्रताप नगर में जो रुपया गबन हुआ है उसके सम्बन्ध में जो गवर्नमेन्ट की जांच बैठी हुई है, उस का नतीजा कितने दिनों के अंदर निकलेगा ?

[Seth Govind Das: How long will it take to announce the findings of the enquiry committee set up by the Government in connection with the embezzlement at Pratapnagar?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : कुछ नतीजा निकल आया है और कुछ और निकल आयेगा।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Some findings have been made known while more are expected soon.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कितने दिनों के अन्दर निकल आयेगा ?

[Seth Govind Das: When will the remaining findings be made known?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : आप राजस्थान में जरा मिनिस्ट्री तो बन जाने दीजिये।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Let the Ministry in Rajasthan be formed first.]

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि राजस्थान में कितने मकान रिफ्यूजीज के लिए बनाने का प्रोग्राम है और वह कब तक खत्म हो सकेगा ?

[Lala Achint Ram: May I know how many houses for refugees are proposed to be constructed in Rajasthan and how long will it take to complete them?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : राजस्थान में कुल नौ हजार मकानों की मांग है। वहां कुछ ऐसे लोग थे जिनके पास काफी मकान नहीं हैं यानी जो सड़कों पर पडे हुये हैं, या धर्मशालाओं में रह रहे हैं, सर्वजनिक जगहों में या सरकारी बिल्डिंगों में पड़े हुए हैं। ऐसे परिवारों की संख्या ३३१७ है। इन के लिये ७०० क्वार्टरों की सेंक्शन है जिन में से २२५ मकान फतहटोबा में चुके हैं और २८६ प्रतापनगर में

गये हैं। बाकी जितने क्वार्टरों की आवश्यकता होगी वह इस साल में पूरी कर दी जायगी।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The total demand in Rajasthan is for nine thousand houses. There are certain persons who have not got any houses and are either squatting on the streets, or living in Dharamshalas, Government buildings or other public places. The number of such families is 3,317. The construction of 700 quarters for them has been sanctioned, out of which 225 at Fatahtiba and another 286 at Pratapnagar have already been built. The remaining quarters that will be required wil be built within this year.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि क्या वह क्वार्टर रिफ्यूजीज इन्स्टालमेंन्ट बेसिस पर खरीद सकेंगे ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the refugees will be allowed to purchase such quarters on instalment basis?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इन्स्टालमेन्ट बेसिस पर क्वार्टर्स के देने न देने के बारे में हम लोगों ने कोई आखिरी फैसला नहीं किया है क्योंकि इस तमाम प्रश्न के ऊपर विचार हो रहा है। बहरहाल यह मिलेंगे रिफ्यूजीज को ही चाहे किराये पर या इन्स्टालमेन्ट बेसिस पर या पूरी कीमत पर मिलें।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** No final decision has yet been made with regard to the sale of these houses on instalment basis as the whole question is under consideration. It is, however, certain that these houses will be given to refugees alone, either on rent or on instalment basis or on realisation of full prices, as the case may be.]

श्री ऐम० ऐल० वर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलायेंगे कि प्रतापनगर में गड़बड़ी के कारण जो जांच हो रही है उस जांच के कारण चूंकि शरणार्थियों के मकान नहीं बन रहे हैं इसलिये गवर्नमेन्ट उन को हाथ में लेकर काम शुरू करेगी ?

[**Shri M. L. Varma:** Will the Government take up the construction work of houses for refugees which has been held up on account of the enquiry regarding Pratapgarh embezzlement being held?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वहां पर एक ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर भी मुकर्रर किया गया है : एक कोआपरेटिव सोसायटी थी जिसको कि रुपया दिया गया था। अब प्रश्न यह है कि इस कोआपरेटिव सोसायटी को जब तक खत्म न किया जाय उस वक्त तक गवर्नमेन्ट सीधे तौर से उसमें दखल नहीं दे सकती। एक कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आगई है, दूसरी कमेटी जो राजस्थान सरकार ने मुकर्रर की है उस की रिपोर्ट अभी नहीं आई है। बहरहाल जो कार्रवाई इसमें की जा सकती है वह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की सलाह से की जायेगी क्योंकि वह उसके मातहत है और अभी वहां उलटपलट हो रही है। पहले झा साहब थे अब शर्मा जी आ गये हैं। मामला कुछ थम जाय तो जरूर कार्रवाई की जायगी।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** An Administrator has been appointed there. There was a Co-operative Society to which the money was advanced. Now the fact remains that unless this Co-operative Society is wound up, the Government cannot directly interfere in it. The report of one Committee has already been received, while that of another set up by the Rajasthan Government is yet to come. Anyhow, every action that may be taken in this regard will be taken in consultation with the State Government because the Committee is subordinate to them and changes are still taking place there. Formerly, there was Shri Jha whose place has now been taken by Shri Sharma. Certainly steps will be taken on conditions being stabilised.]

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : सहयोग समिति जिसको वह रुपया दिया गया था जिसको कि उसने गबन कर लिया है, वह अभी चल रही है या तोड़ दी गई ?

[**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is the Co-operative Society to which the money was given and which misappropriated the amount still functioning or it has been liquidated?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वह अभी कुछ चल रही है और कुछ बन्द हो गई है। चल इस तरह से रही है कि वह लीगली रजिस्टर्ड है लेकिन एक ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर मुकर्रर कर दिया गया है और अब वह कमेटी काम नहीं कर रही है बल्कि ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेर काम कर रहा है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** It is partly functioning and partly not. In a way it is functioning because it is a legally registered one, but an Administrator has now been appointed and so the functions at present are being performed not by the Society but by the Administrator.]

PONDI HILL COLLIERY

*2505. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) when the provisions of the Central Pay Commission recommendations were applied to the employees of the Pondi Hill Colliery in the ex-Korea State in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the recommendations of para A were applied with the consultation of the lessor; and

(c) what measures Government adopted before handing over charge of the property to protect the wages and privileges of the workers, who were employed by them during the period of lease?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) With effect from the 1st January 1947, or the 16th August 1947, as the case may be, according to the option of the employees.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The staff recruited for the Collieries were temporary and with the termination of the lease, their employment under Government ceased. The question of protecting the wages and privileges of the employees after termination of their employment under Government does not arise.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know the number of employees who have been absorbed by Government in other collieries?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot give the number, but the staff was recruited like this. During the lease some permanent staff of the Indian Railways were transferred to the Pondi Hill Colliery. The temporary staff of the Coal Department were transferred to the collieries. These have been re-transferred to the Railways. Some staff was taken over from the lessor in 1944 along with the colliery. This staff also went back to the lessor. The only category for which one can say that Government has some responsibility was the temporary staff recruited by the Chief Mining Engineer, but as these were temporary there was nothing like protection of wages and privileges involved.

LEASE OF PONDI HILL COLLIERY

*2506. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the main terms of the lease executed between the Government and Sir Manakji, Dadabhai with regard to the Pondi Hill Colliery in the ex-Korea State in Madhya Pradesh?

(b) What has been Government's total investment in the Colliery during the period of lease and what is their total gain or loss?

(c) What is the capital expenditure on housing, powerhouse, machinery and stores?

(d) What were the reasons which led Government to take the colliery on lease?

(e) What was the total annual production of coal in the colliery during the period of lease?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The main terms of the lease are contained in the attached statement. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 17.]

(b) The accounts of the Colliery have not been finally closed but provisional figures upto December, 1950 are:

		Rs.
Total Expenditure	...	1,01,09,746
Loss	...	9,30,254

(c) (i) On building and structures Rs. 10,51,385.

(ii) On plant and machinery Rs. 10,32,083-13-0.

(d) To increase the output of coal, which showed a steep drop of 4 million tons in 1943 as compared to the previous year. This colliery seemed to offer promising conditions for rapid development.

(e)

1944-45 (from 1st October, 1944)	...	22,243 tons.
1945-46	...	84,557 tons.
1946-47	...	147,619 tons.
1947-48	...	176,997 tons.
1948-49	...	130,863 tons.
1949-50	...	107,485 tons.
1950-51 (upto 30th Sept., 1950)	...	47,041 tons.
Total	...	716,805 tons.

Shri R. L. Malviya: Did Government try to extend the lease in order to make up the losses incurred by them?

Shri Gadgil: The original lease was extended only once and that was up to September, 1950.

Shri R. L. Malviya: What is the value of the stores lying with Government?

Shri Gadgil: I cannot give it offhand, but under the terms of the agreement most of the plant will come to Government.

Shri Massey: Was the coal supplied to Railways and if so, to what Railways?

Shri Gadgil: I require notice for that, but the entire output from these collieries was managed by Government and supplied to Railways.

Shri Massey: Was this coal not suitable for Railways?

Shri Gadgil: Not being an expert I cannot say.

INDIANS IN BURMA

*2508. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of Indians are still living in interiors of Burma in very panicky conditions; and

(b) whether Government have received complaints from public organisations to the effect that due to lack of staff and proper personnel the Indian Embassy in Burma is not in a position to contact the Indians in the interior?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Government are aware that a number of Indians are living in the interior of Burma. Conditions in that area have considerably improved, but are still somewhat unsettled. There appears to be no reason for anxiety and even less for panic.

(b) No.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether our Embassy is in a position to contact Indians living in the very interior of Burma?

Dr. Keskar: Our Embassy in Rangoon is in a position to contact Indians in certain parts where communications exist and also where the recapture of these areas from the rebels has taken place. There are even now certain areas where our representatives are not able to contact the population, though we do get information by various ways in regard to the conditions of Indians there.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether any important organisations of Indians in Burma have complained to Government that the broadcasts made by our Embassies for Indians from Rangoon are in a language which the ordinary agriculturists and labourers cannot understand?

Dr. Keskar: I am not aware of any complaint with regard to the language in which our Embassy broadcasts for people in these areas are made.

Shri T. N. Singh: Have Government any information regarding the condition of Indians who are at present in the Karen-held territory and Northern Burma area?

Dr. Keskar: We have not got complete information, but we do get sufficiently reliable information with regard to the condition of Indians there. In the beginning, owing to the disturbed conditions created by the fight that was going on in Burma Indians were put to hardship in many parts occupied by the Karens but our latest information is that the position has very much improved. We can say with considerable confidence that the position of Indians now is such that it need cause no anxiety to us.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know what specific action has been taken by our Embassy in Burma to remove the panic among Indians in Burma?

Dr. Keskar: I am afraid that in regard to Indians who are in territories held by Karens and other rebels, our Embassy can take no action which will have any effect in allaying their panic, as they are beyond the control of our Embassy in Rangoon. But in regard to certain areas which are under the Government of Burma, but were not in communication with Rangoon, our Embassy took many steps; for example. a few months back we sent by plane officers from our Embassy to North Burma, who visited as many of the localities as possible where there are Indians and tried to reassure them that the Government of India will do whatever possible to help them. That was the only thing that was possible. It was not possible for us to help Indians who were in rebel-held territory. Even there, I may inform my hon. friend that in one or two instances, Government did send messages to the rebels also that if Indians there are maltreated, the Government of India will ultimately hold the rebel authorities responsible for whatever that may happen.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF REHABILITATION MINISTERS

*2509. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether Government propose to place on the Table of the House a copy of the proceedings or of the recommendations of the Conference of Rehabilitation Ministers held in New Delhi in December last?

(b) Were any non-officials also invited to this Conference and did they participate in the discussions?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A summary of the recommendations of the Conference is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 18.]

(b) No.

Shri Raj Kanwar: May I know how many Rehabilitation Ministers of the States attended this Conference.

Shri A. P. Jain: All except the Rehabilitation Minister of Uttar Pradesh, because the Conference related to Western region only.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Have Government taken decisions on all the recommendations of the Conference and are they being implemented?

Shri A. P. Jain: Some of the recommendations have been considered and action is being taken. They are being implemented. In respect of other recommendations, they are under examination.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What steps are being taken to implement these recommendations, particularly with regard to publicity of rehabilitation schemes?

Shri A. P. Jain: The State Ministries have published pamphlets and brochures. Some broadcasts have also been given. A film is under preparation and the Central Ministry has also issued a number of news items and publications.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Do the State Rehabilitation Ministries correspond with the Central Ministry, on various subjects through their Governments, or do the Rehabilitation Ministers of States write direct to the Minister here?

Shri A. P. Jain: The procedure is governed by governmental rules. In certain matters Rehabilitation Ministers write direct to me. But in many other matters which are of a formal nature the communication is made direct by the Secretariat of the State Government to the Secretariat here.

लाला अचित राम : क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी कृपा कर के यह बतलायेंगे कि क्या इस कान्फरेन्स का यह भी ख्याल था कि निर्वासित भाइयों को बसाने का काम बहुत लम्बा है और उसे सैन्ट्रल गवर्नमेन्ट ने मंजूर कर लिया है ?

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether this Conference was of the view that the task of rehabilitating the displaced persons was such as would take a long time to accomplish and that this view has been accepted by the Central Government?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वह रिकमन्डेशन यहां पर रख दी गई है। आप उसमें देख लें कि यह मौजूद है या नहीं। मैंने इस बात को नहीं देखा है।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** The recommendations have been placed here and the hon. Member may see for himself whether these things are contained therein or not. I have not seen this thing.]

PREFABRICATED HUTS

*2510. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to refer to his answer to my Starred Question No. 6, asked on the 15th November, 1950 regarding Swedish Prefabricated huts and state:

(a) whether the Directorate-General of Industry and Supply have completed their enquiry into the circumstances in which their Inspectorate in London certified wrongly that the stores were in accordance with the specifications and if so, with what result;

(b) whether it has been decided to take legal action against the firm for breach of contract; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) Yes, Sir. The Inspector inspected the stores to the British Standard Specification. He did not obtain any outside technical opinion with regard to the suitability of the material with special reference to water absorption, as there was a warranty clause in the contract providing satisfactory service.

(b) and (c). As I stated in reply to Starred Question No. 2107 asked by Shri Ghule on the 12th March, 1951,

the matter was referred to arbitration in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact, Sir, that Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari in his report definitely stated that the inspector in London had wrongly certified these huts to be in accordance with specification, and if so, what action was taken against the officer who issued the wrong certificate?

Shri Gadgil: It is true, Sir, that in the report submitted by Shri Krishnamachari everybody except the inspector was exonerated. Unfortunately, the inspector is not a government servant. He was employed specially for this on payment of certain fees.

Shri Kamath: Was he asked to explain why he issued a wrong certificate, and when was his report received about this?

Shri Gadgil: The explanation is contained in my reply to part (a). Because there was a warranty clause in the contract so far as water absorption was concerned, he was in a way justified in testing it according to British Standard Specification.

Shri Kamath: Is the Minister aware that his colleague, the Rehabilitation Minister in the last session stated that the course open to Government was firstly civil action in a court of law, and second negotiations through the Swedish Representative of the firm? If so, why was it decided not to take any action in a court of law against the firm for realisation of the full amount?

Shri Gadgil: As stated earlier in reply to one of the questions, the contract contained a clause that if there is any disagreement or dispute as regards the guarantee of the contract, it must be first referred to arbitration. If we had filed a suit without first taking recourse to arbitration, the court would have stayed proceedings and asked both the parties to go to arbitration. Therefore, the matter was referred to arbitration and after a good deal of discussion it was thought prudent that the compromise proposed should be accepted and under that compromise, as I stated only a few minutes ago, Rs. 4 lakhs and 50 thousand is the amount which the firm has agreed to pay. Out of that Rs. 2,36,800 are already with Government.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that the technical adviser to the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Dr. Koenisberger in the course of the negotiations with the firm agreed to undertake plastering of the roofs to make them waterproof, but neglected to do it before the huts were erected, and, therefore, the firm refused not to pay anything more?

Shri Gadgil: Sir, this is a matter on which it is not possible for me to give a reply off-hand. I would require notice of it.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has Government come to the conclusion that no proceedings can be instituted or no action taken against the person who issued the wrong certificate, because he is not a Government employee and was employed only on a fee?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has already explained the position; that they cannot do it, because of the clause of arbitration in the agreement and the court would have held that its jurisdiction was barred, if no reference was made to arbitration.

Dr. Deshmukh: I am not referring to the company: I am referring to the officer who issued the wrong certificate.

Shri Gadgil: He was not an officer of the Government of India; he was an expert employed for this specific purpose on payment of certain fees.

Dr. Deshmukh: Does that preclude action, Sir—that is my question?

Mr. Speaker: I think we may proceed to the next question.

Ammonium Sulphate

*2511. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, as stated in the Estimates Committee report on the Ministry of Industry and Supply, at page 39 thereof, the Sindri Fertiliser Factory was to have produced the first instalment of usable ammonium sulphate by the end of December, 1950;

(b) whether that schedule has been adhered to; and

(c) whether full production can be achieved by November, 1951, as envisaged, and if not, why not?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The statement referred to in the Estimates Committee report was only an expectation expressed in a joint report submitted to Government in January, 1950 by two senior representatives of Government's consultants after an examination of the progress of work at site.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The situation today in general terms is that the stage of testing and taking over installed plant and machinery with a view to initial operation has commenced. Power generation has commenced and the Gas plant is being put in commission. When gas is available, it will be possible to start work in the Ammonia Synthesis plant and then in the Sulphate Plant. All that can now be said with reasonable certainty is that the construction of the factory will be completed by the end of 1951 and that having regard to the unavoidable time—lag between different stages of operation and the imperative necessity of carefully testing and tuning in each erected plant before allowing its continuous operation, it is unlikely that initial production will be established before November, 1951. Full production is expected to be achieved by the latter half of 1952.

Shri Kamath: Will the factory go into production—at least test production—during the life-time of the present Government?

Shri Gadgil: I do not have any idea of the life-time of this Government. But whether this Government is there or not, the factory is going to be completed and is going to be in operation before the latter half of 1952.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Perishable Goods coming from East Pakistan

Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable fall in the quantity of incoming perishable goods like (i) fish; (ii) fowls, (iii) eggs, (iv) milk products and (v) vegetables, from East Pakistan to the Calcutta markets, since the Trade Agreement between India and Pakistan came into operation; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this fall and the steps taken by Government to counteract it?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). According to the information received from Calcutta, the statistics of imports of perishable goods from Pakistan for the fortnight ending 4th March, 1951 show some decline over the figures of the previous fortnights. This fall is apparently due to the imposition of exchange control for exports to and imports from Pakistan. It must naturally take some time before persons conducting the business of importing perishable goods from Pakistan comprehend fully the implications of exchange control regulations and start observing the usual formalities. A slight interruption in business in these circumstances seems only natural.

As regards remedies, it is yet too early to have a correct appraisal of the working of the exchange control on the import of perishable goods. The situation will, however, be watched and necessary steps, if any, will be taken to avoid any fall in business.

It may, however, be mentioned that, although the figures of imports for the fortnight ending 4th March, 1951 indicate some decline over those of the previous fortnights, the imports since the beginning of 1951 are a great improvement over the import position as it existed during the corresponding period in 1950.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that it has been laid down in our Trade Pact with Pakistan that no import or export control restrictions would be imposed upon the movements of these food articles, milk etc., may I know whether no import or export licence is necessary for carrying on trade between the two Bengals so far as these commodities are concerned?

Shri Mahtab: This is not a question of import and export control. Because of the change in the exchange position some new rules have been introduced and it takes some time, it appears, for the business community to get accustomed to these new rules.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the existing arrangement of the Governmnet for the exchange of Pakistan and Indian rupees so that it will be readily available to these traders?

Shri Mahtab: I cannot say off-hand, but I can let him know if notice is given.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the value of the Pakistan rupee in the Calcutta market with reference to the Indian rupee is much lower than the Government exchange rate?

Shri Mahtab: It is again a very big question which cannot be connected with this. But so far as that is concerned, my information is that the marginal value always remains a little lower than the accepted value, but I do not know whether that is the position everywhere in the Calcutta market.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it a fact that the traders carrying on the trade in these commodities are compelled to accept the Government exchange rate which varies widely from the market value in Calcutta and that this is the reason why the trade has suffered?

Shri Mahtab: At least that complaint is not being made by the traders. As a matter of fact there is no complaint on that score. On the contrary the latest information is—of course I have not got the exact figures, but in his letter our Deputy Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Calcutta gives the latest information and he says, "I may say that the decline has not affected the supply position in the city. Prices have remained stationary at the old level and we have not witnessed any shortage of supplies during the past few weeks". That shows that there has been no difference in prices. Only the difficulty has been with regard to the new rules. The traders have to adjust themselves to these new rules.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it a fact that the Pakistan rupee is today available in Calcutta at much less than the official rate—at Rs. 108 or 107?

Shri Mahtab: I shall make enquiries. If that is the case how does it hit anybody?

Shri Hussain Imam: It means that we have to pay a higher cost. Does it not mean that Pakistan goods imported into India are costing higher today than they would have if there had been no exchange control?

Shri Mahtab: It is not the cost as the figures will show and the traders will say.

Shri Dwivedi: What are the restrictions on the export of betel leaves from India to Pakistan?

Shri Mahtab: I require notice.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Needles

*2492. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a). Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total quantity and value of needles imported into India during the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 up to the end of December, 1950?

(b) Are there any factories manufacturing needles in India and if so, what is their annual outturn and how do the indigenous needles compare with the imported needles, both in respect to quality and price?

(c) What encouragement and facilities are being given by the Government of India to give an impetus to this Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) There is one factory capable of producing 230 million gramaphone needles and 400 million hand sewing needles per annum. This has started production of gramaphone needles on a limited scale recently and is expected to start manufacture of hand sewing needles early next year. It is premature to say anything about quality and price of the needles produced by the firm.

(c) Those who come forward with proposals for starting manufacture of needles are given even reasonable facility to obtain plant and machinery, raw materials, technical assistance, etc.

STATEMENT

Figures relating to the total quantity and value of different types of needles imported into India during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 are not available as these are not specified separately in Foreign Sea and Air-borne Trade returns. The total value of all types of needles for which import licences were issued during these years is given below:

1948	...	Rs. 1,95,45,090
1949	...	Rs. 1,65,741
1950	...	Rs. 96,315

Rent Realisation from Government Quarters

*2499. **Babu Gopinath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount which the Government of India get annually in the shape of rent from Government quarters in Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) the amount which the Government have to spend annually on the maintenance of these quarters; and

(c) the number of *Malis* and *Chaukidars*, employed to look after these quarters and the expenditure incurred annually on the pay and allowances of this staff?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) The amount of rent recovered during the year 1949-50 including charges for services, in respect of quarters in Delhi and New Delhi was Rs. 60,07,850 as shown below:

	Rs.
Delhi	... 4,43,860
New Delhi	... 55,63,990
Total	60,07,850

(b) Rs. 54,53,662-8-0 during 1949-50.

(c) During 1949-50 the number of *Malis, Chaukidars* etc. employed for these quarters was 1383, and the expenditure incurred on the pay and allowances of this staff was Rs. 13,88,712

Pepper Export

*2504. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that pepper is allowed to be exported only from Bombay and if so, why?

(b) Is it a fact that merchants in Bombay are controlling prices of pepper?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The export of pepper is allowed from all ports.

(b) No, Sir.

Search of Non-Muslim Abducted Women

*2507. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any change in the attitude of West Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and East Pakistan as regards the search of non-Muslim abducted women, since the Indo-Pakistan Agreement came into force; and

(b) if so, how far the Pakistan Government have helped or are helping in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) The figures of actual recoveries of abducted women in West Punjab, Sind and Baluchistan during the last 12 months do not indicate any progress in the rate of recovery. In East Pakistan the problem is of small dimensions and is dealt with under the ordinary law of the land. In the absence of a special law, recovery work is carried out under certain legal handicaps. Efforts are being made to overcome some of these difficulties.

(b) The Pakistan Government have expressed themselves in favour of the recovery of abducted women and are trying to improve their machinery in order to obtain better results.

Import of Ball Bearings

*2512. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what is the total value of the imports in ball bearings of all types in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) How many factories are there in India producing ball bearings?

(c) What proportion of the requirements of the country is produced by these factories?

(d) Will the Government Machine Tool Factory at Bangalore produce ball bearings?

(e) Do Government propose to afford any protection to the Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Information is not available, as separate statistics for this item are not maintained.

(b) One.

(c) About 15 per cent.

(d) No.

(e) The factory has just started production and can meet only a fraction of the country's requirements. The question of giving protection to the industry will be considered in due course after the usual investigation by the Tariff Board.

Round Table Conference with South Africa

*2513. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh approach has been made by the Government of India for holding a Round Table Conference with South Africa, to discuss the problem of Indians in South Africa;

(b) whether any assurance has been given to the effect that the Group Areas Act will not be applied before the Conference takes place; and

(c) what progress, since the passing of the United Nations resolution, has been made in this respect?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). The Government of India are in correspondence with the Government of the Union of South Africa about the implementation of the Resolution of the General Assembly adopted at its last session. I think that it would be inappropriate to go into details while the correspondence is in progress, but I hope to be able to inform the House of the result of the correspondence as early as possible.

Glycerine

*2514. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of glycerine is produced every year in India;

(b) how much of this is recovered as a bye-product in soap and other manufacturing process;

(c) what is the quantity of glycerine which is unrecovered; and

(d) what per cent. of the production of glycerine is utilised for manufacturing explosives in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Production of glycerine (Refined).

Year	Tons
1948	2140
1949	1740
1950	1870

(b) The entire production of glycerine is a bye-product of the soap industry.

(c) About 950 tons per annum.

(d) About six per cent.

LADY HARDINGE *Sarai*, NEW DELHI

*2515. **Thakur Krishna Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the displaced persons residing in Lady Hardinge *Sarai*, New Delhi, have made any representation to Government for reduction of rent charged from them by the Trustees of Lady Hardinge *Sarai;* and

(b) what steps Government have taken on that representation?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) On their representation, a rebate of 33 per cent. in the existing rates of rent was sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi with effect from 1st January, 1949. On further representation, the Chief Commissioner, Delhi has advised the Trustees to allow the rebate with effect from 15th August, 1947.

COMMONWEALTH LOAN TO BURMA

*2516. **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether India's share in the Commonwealth loan to Burma carries any interest and if so, what?

(b) What are the terms for repayment of this loan?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir. Interest is payable six monthly at the same rate as the Burma Currency Board would earn by investing the Sterling assets.

(b) The repayment has to be made within 2 years from the date of signature of the agreement *i.e.* the 28th June, 1951.

MINIMUM WAGES

*2517. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has advised the Government of India against insisting on the fixation of minimum wages for industrial workers as envisaged in the Central Minimum Wages Act of 1948; and

(b) if so, whether Government are going to take steps to amend the Act mentioned in part (a) above?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission was consulted in regard to the fixation of minimum wages in respect of employments in agriculture and not in respect of those mentioned in Part I of the Schedule attached to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The reasons for extending the time-limit to fix minimum wages in respect of employments mentioned in part I of the Schedule of the Act just mentioned, are given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill further to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Act XI of 1948) which was introduced by me on Monday last.

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

*2518. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the recent decisions of the Cottage Industries Board; and

(b) whether any amount has been set apart for giving loans to individuals or organisations for starting small scale industries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting of the Cottage Industries Board held at Santiniketan in January, 1951 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 19.]

(b) Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 1,50,000 has been ear-marked for the grant of loans to cottage and small scale industries in Part C States.

ART SILK YARN TO WEAVERS

*2519. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to his answer to my Short Notice Question asked on 8th March, 1951 and state:

(a) what new ways and means are being considered to meet the requirements of weavers who are not members of any recognised associations; and

(b) what attempts have been made by Government to seize hoarded stocks?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

SHOE FACTORY AT FARIDABAD

*2520. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) how many workers from among the displaced persons at Faridabad will be absorbed by the shoe factory of Batas; and

(b) whether this shoe factory is to be run on co-operative basis under the

Faridabad Developmeht Scheme in future?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 300 to begin with which is expected to rise to 2000 in due course.

(b) No.

POWER PLANT AT FARIDABAD

*2521. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state for what period and on what conditions the German Engineer, Mr. Doll has been engaged at Faridabad for the erection of the Power Plant?

(b) What amount will be required for the erection of this Plant and what will be the income derived from the surplus energy of the Power station?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Mr. Doll, a German Engineer, has been engaged for a period of one year at Rs. 2,000/- per month.

(b) It is estimated that the cost for the erection of the plant will be about Rs. 10 lakhs. It is not possible at this stage to give an estimate of the income from the sale of surplus energy, as it will depend on the rates to be charged from consumers for which negotiations are in progress.

BATA SHOE FACTORIES

*2522. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many shoe factories of Batas there are in India?

(b) How many labourers are working in these factories?

(c) What kind of protection do Government propose to give to shoe making cottage industries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Two.

(b) About 5,068 workers in the footwear department of these two factories.

(c) Cottage leather industry stands on the same footing as any other cottage Industry vis-a-vis the small industry. No direct protection has so far been given to any cottage industry against competition by the small industry, although the problem has been very much under consideration of Government.

REPRESENTATION FROM DELHI NAWAR AND TAPE WEAVING ASSOCIATION

*2523. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Nawar and Tape Weaving Association has made a representation that the power and hand-loom weavers do not receive proportionate quota of yarn as is given to the big power loom mills; and

(b) if so, what is the reason for this distinction?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) The quota of yarn for both Powerloom factories and other manufactures is fixed on the basis of one shift working. Powerloom factories, however, are given their full quota on this basis and the balance is distributed to other manufacturers on a *pro-rata* basis. This is because it is not possible for Powerloom factories to reduce their working below one shift.

CEMENT AND IRON SHEETS FOR ASSAM

*2524. **Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cement and corrugated iron sheets supplied to the earthquake-affected areas of North Lakhunpur, Sadiya, Dibrugarh, Jorhat and Sibsagar in the State of Assam;

(b) what quantity was allotted to the educational and public institutions there; and

(c) what quantity was actually utilised by the educational institutions and other public bodies there?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). 1,500 tons of cement and 3,000 tons of corrugated iron sheets were allotted to the Government of Assam for providing relief to the earthquake sufferers. The distribution of these materials was done by the State Government, and I am not aware of the details of internal distribution.

DIESEL OIL ENGINES (IMPORT)

*2525. **Shri Alagesan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether there has been a change in the policy of import of Diesel oil engines for agricultural purposes for the January—June period of 1951?

(b) If so, have the import quotas for Diesel oil engines of various Horse Power been revised under the present policy?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The policy as announced in the old Ministry of Commerce Public Notice Number 150-I.T.C. (P.N.)/50 of the 15th December, 1950 has been modified only to the extent that in view of the growing requirement of Diesel oil engines for agricultural purposes, we propose consistently with the interests of indigenous

production to allow some further imports and for this purpose, information regarding the extra requirement is being collected.

PROTECTED INDUSTRIES

*2526. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state how many of the protected industries have so far been able to stand on their own legs?

(b) What are the safe-guards against the industries misusing the protective privileges accorded to them?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) If, by ability to stand on one's own leg, the hon. Member means ability to do without protection, the answer is obviously, none.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the reply given on the 6th December, 1949 in the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) by the then hon. Minister of Commerce, Shri K. C. Neogy to Starred Question No. 339 by Shri O. V. Alagesan.

MUSLIMS RETURNING FROM PAKISTAN

*2527. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government declared in 1948 that the Muslims who had gone to Pakistan during the disturbances of 1947, will be restored their properties if they come back to their homes in India; if so, when this decision was arrived at;

(b) whether Government propose to place a copy of the *communique* issued by Government in this respect on the Table of the House;

(c) whether any date for the return from Pakistan of the Muslims referred to above was fixed by Government and if so, what was the last date fixed;

(d) whether the persons referred to above were asked to report their arrival in the respective police stations of their districts;

(e) if so, when this order was issued by the Government of India or the Punjab (I) State Government;

(f) whether it is a fact that instructions were issued by the Superintendent of Police, Gurgaon District, to every Station House Officer of the police stations under his control to keep a record in a separate register of the persons referred to above;

(g) for what purpose this record was prepared;

(h) whether property can be restored on the basis of this police record to the Muslims who returned but could not be enumerated in the census of Meos held in this district during July 1948; and

(i) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No such declaration was made.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

(f) The Government of India have no information. The information is, however, being obtained from the Government of Punjab.

(g) to (i). It is not possible to give an answer until receipt of information in respect of (f) from the Government of Punjab.

DISPLACED MEOS

*2528. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the re-settled Meos in Alwar and Bharatpur districts of Rajasthan State, have been restored their properties including lands and homes in full and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any of the re-settled Meos in these districts have been restored the occupancy lands they were holding at the time of their displacement during 1947-48 and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the partly settled Meos in Alwar and Bharatpur districts have been refused restoration of their homes and lands which were occupied by displaced persons: and if so, under what provision of law it has been done?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The properties of Meos resettled in Alwar and Bharatpur have been restored in full except in cases where they had already been allotted to displaced persons.

(c) According to the law prevailing in the States at the time of disturbances in 1947 all the lands deserted by the Meos lapsed to the States of Alwar and Bharatpur. Subsequently on the merger of these states into Matsya Union, these lands were, according to Law, treated as Evacuee Property. The evacuee property can be restored under Section 16 to the owner subject to such terms and conditions as the Custodian may think fit to impose. As a matter of policy, it has been decided that where displaced persons have been settled on evacuee property they will not generally be disturbed. In the case of Meos

where restoration is not possible on account of the settlement of displaced persons they are being equivalent lands elsewhere.

MATSYA UNION EVACUEE LAND ENQUIRY COMMISSION

*2529. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Matsya Union Evacuee Land Enquiry Commission set up by the Rajasthan State Government during 1950 has been received by the Government of India;

(b) if so, the nature of the recommendations made by this Commission;

(c) the nature of observations made by the Rajasthan State Government on the report of this Enquiry Commission;

(d) whether the recommendations of the Commission and the State Government referred to above, have been taken into consideration by the Government of India; and

(e) if so, what decisions have been arrived at?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendations of the Commission related to (1) restoration of lands to Meos and other Muslims, (2) restoration and allotment of land to local tenants (3) rehabilitation of displaced persons, causes of their dissatisfaction and abandonment of holdings by them, (4) land improvement and scale of allotment, and (5) reorganisation of the rehabilitation machinery in Matsya, etc.

(c) No observations were made by the Government of Rajasthan on the report of the Commission.

(d) The recommendations of the Commission were considered on 9th March, 1951 at a meeting attended by the representatives of the Government of India and of the Rajasthan Government.

(e) A copy of the decisions arrived at in this meeting is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 20.].

DEMONSTRATION BY WEAVERS IN NAGPUR

*2530. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that over five thousand weavers staged a demonstration in Nagpur on the 12th March, 1951 due to the large-scale unemployment among the weavers, which has arisen out of acute yarn shortage?

(b) What is the total quantity of yarn supplied to Madhya Pradesh in the last three months and have any steps been taken to assess the total requirements of the State?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to give immediate relief to these weavers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) In December, 1950 and January, 1951, 2,315 bales and 1,135 bales of yarn were released to Madhya Pradesh. An allotment of 2,627 bales was made in February, 1951; in March, 1951, this State has been given an allotment of 3,091 bales as against an equitable quota of 2,634 bales due to it on the present availability of yarn. All the State Governments have been circularised to take a census of the handlooms in their respective States in order to assess their total requirements of yarn.

(c) All the Mills have been directed to reserve for internal consumption 87½ of their packings of yarn with effect from March, 1951, and in consequence of the steps taken to ban export of all kinds of yarn and the incentive given to the Mills by restoration of four per cent. cut, it is expected that by April, 1951, large supplies of yarn will be available for distribution to various States including Madhya Pradesh.

साइकिलें

*२५३१. **श्री खापर्डे :** क्या **वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) भारत में साइकिलें निर्माण करने वाली फैक्टरियों की संख्या क्या है तथा इन के द्वारा निर्माण की जाने वाली साइकिलों की संख्या क्या है;

(ख) विदेशों से आयात की गई साइकिलों के मूल्य तथा उपयोगिता की तुलना में भारत में निर्मित साइकिलें कैसी रहती हैं ; तथा

(ग) किन किन राज्यों में यह फैक्टरियां स्थित हैं तथा उन फैक्टरियों के नाम क्या हैं ?

BICYCLES

[*2531. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bicycle manufacturing factories in India and the number of bicycles manufactured by these factories;

(b) how the bicycles manufactured in India compare with those imported from abroad in respect of their prices and service; and

(c) the names of the States where these factories are located and also the names of the factories?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There are two factories manufacturing complete cycles. During the year 1950, they produced 104,005 cycles.

(b) Indian cycles are lower in price than the ordinary imported makes and are not inferior to them in quality.

(c) (1) Bombay State
Messrs. Hind Cycles Limited.

(2) Bihar State
Messrs. Hindusthan Bicycles Manufacturing and Industrial Corporation.

UN-AUTHORISED OCCUPATION OF GOVERNMENT QUARTERS

149. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the number of displaced persons still in un-authorised occupation of Government quarters in Delhi?

(b) How many such displaced persons were rehabilitated by the end of 1950?

(c) What is the number of applicants among displaced persons on the waiting list for alternative accommodation in Delhi?

(d) How do Government propose to provide them roof and within what period?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): (a) 2,279 families; the number of displaced persons in those families is not known

(b) About 600 families but exact statistics are not available.

(c) As in part (a).

(d) Alternative accommodation will be provided according to a sector-wise programme within the next six months or so.

CHANDERNAGORE

150. Shri Kamath: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the elected Municipal Assembly of Chandernagore has been dissolved recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a nominated provisional administrative commission for Chandernagore; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b): Yes.

(c) The old Municipal Assembly was dissolved with a view to fresh elections so that the administration of the city might be as representative as possible. The present arrangement is provisional and only till such elections.

The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Note issued by the Government of India on the 8th February, 1951. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 21.].

MINIMUM WAGES

151. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the reasons why in certain States and in certain establishments minimum wages have not yet been fixed?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Enquiry is being made from the State Governments concerned though, in view of the Amendment Bill which I introduced on Monday last, this may not be necessary at this stage.

SUPPLY OF YARN

152. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of yarn, cotton and art silk, demanded by each of the States during each month in 1950, and the first two months of 1951;

(b) the quantity of yarn allocated, and actually supplied to each state in each of those months;

(c) the number of looms lying idle in each State in each month since October, 1950; and

(d) the quantity of yarn demanded by each State for March, 1951, and the quantity allocated to each State for this month?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a), (b) and (d). A statement showing the quotas of cotton yarn fixed for each State by Government, its equitable share, average deliveries during January, 1950 to January, 1951 and quantity of yarn likely to be delivered to each State during February and March, 1951, is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 22 (Statement I.).] Regarding Art Silk, no

monthly allocations are made. However, State Governments have, on our request, intimated to us their, approximate requirements of art silk yarn for the 2nd half of 1950. The quantities indicated by the different State Governments are given in a Statement, which is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 22 (Statement II).] State Governments have not intimated their requirements of art silk yarn for January—June, 1951 period.

(c) The information is being collected from State Governments.

Satyagraha BY HAND-LOOM WEAVERS

Prof. Ranga: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) in what States hand-loom weavers have gone on *Satyagraha* in order to demonstrate their sufferings, caused by shortage of supply of yarn, consequent unemployment and semi-starvation; and

(b) whether Government are taking any emergent steps to relieve the distress of the weavers, especially by way of increasing supply of yarn to weavers and arranging for the marketing of their cloth production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Satyagraha by weavers in Madras and Madhya Pradesh only, has been reported so far.

(b) In order to make more yarn available to the handloom industry, the Mills have been directed to reserve 87½ per cent of their packings of yarn for internal consumption with effect from March, 1951, and an additional incentive has been given to the Mills to produce more yarn by the restoration of the four per cent cut on free yarn. Exports of all counts of yarn have also been banned. Due to the shortage of mill-made cloth there is a demand for handloom cloth and no special arrangements have been made for the marketing of handloom production beyond what have been made by State Governments.

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Tuesday, 27th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

LOSS IN IMPORT OF SUGAR

*2532. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have suffered any loss in the transaction of sugar imported during the year 1950 from foreign countries?

(b) How much of the amount paid for the purchase has been recovered through sales?

(c) Have State Governments paid their share of the loss?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) No.

(b) The entire amount paid for the purchase is being recovered from the Governments of the States to whom this sugar has been allotted as a part of their consumption quota.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether there was any profit; what was the total amount paid for the purchase of this consignment?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As I have pointed out to the House the whole transaction was on a no-profit no-loss basis.

The total quantity purchased was 60,050 tons. The price varies. I have not got the incidental expenditure but the rate per ton has been something like from £56 to £62 per ton and in one case $6·5 per cwt.

Shri Sidhva: Is there any balance from the imported stock still lying undisposed?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact stocks are arriving from month to month and some of the consignments are still to arrive.

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand that imports of sugar are still coming in?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The reason is that on account of shipping difficulties and a strike in the U.K., shipments expected to arrive earlier have not come.

Shri Goenka: May I know what is the quantity of sugar still to arrive?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The quantity which has arrived or is arriving is about 16,990 tons shipped in February?

Shri Goenka: Am I to understand that the whole of this quantity has been shipped, out of which about 16,000 tons or so is still to arrive?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got exactly how much has arrived. But I have got here the figures indicating actual shipment. They show that the shipment made cover the whole quantity.

Mr. Speaker: The point of the question appears to be, what was the total quantity ordered and how much is yet to come?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The total quantity ordered was 60,050 tons purchased in the U.K.—that was what was purchased.

Shri Sidhva: What quantity is to arrive yet?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Of this 52,540 tons have already reached Indian ports.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know, Sir, why, notwithstanding the fact that there was scarcity of sugar in 1950 and also the prices were rather abnormally high, a larger quantity was not imported?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Hon. Members will remember the answer which I gave earlier. It was impossible at that time to purchase any imported sugar and it was with great difficulty, at the intercession of U.K., that we were able to purchase these quantities.

INDIAN TOBACCO

*2533. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that samples of Indian tobacco have been sent to Indian Trade Commissioners in foreign countries to stimulate foreign demands for Indian tobacco?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In which country or countries of the world has been increasing interest evinced in Indian tobacco and what has been the annual demand for it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should like to have notice of that question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact, Sir, that a journal on Indian tobacco is being published by the Government for stimulating demand for it in foreign countries?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as my information goes, trade representatives of several countries have been addressed about the tobacco.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know what is the agency through which Indian tobacco is popularised in foreign countries?

Shri K. M. Munshi: In 1950 trade representatives: in U.K., France, Egypt, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Australia and Brazil were sent these tobacco specimens and they were also displayed in several international fairs.

RAILWAY INCOME

*2534. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total passenger traffic earnings for all the classes separately during the years 1949-1950 and 1950-1951; and

(b) the total earnings from load traffic during the years 1949-1950 and 1950-1951?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) (i) The earnings from passengers carried during the year 1949-50, on Indian Government Railways were:

Air-conditioned.—Rs. 9,77,000.
Class I.—Rs. 3,53,45,000.
Class II-Special.—Rs. 88,44,000.
Class II-Ordinary.—Rs. 8,37,54,000.
Class III.—Rs. 73,14,64,000.
Total all classes.—Rs. 86,03,84,000.

(ii) Similar approximate earnings for the year 1950-51, available up to February 1951, are:

Air-conditioned.—Rs. 11,08,000.
1st Class/Class I.—Rs. 2,18,26,000.
2nd Class/Class II-Special—Rs. 3,50,70,000.
Inter Class/Class II.—Rs. 5,33,06,000.
3rd Class/Class III.—Rs. 69,92,50,000.
Total all classes.—Rs. 81,55,69,000.

(b) The term 'Load traffic' is not quite clear, but if it is taken to indicate 'Goods traffic', total earnings from this head on Indian Government Railways during 1949-50 were Rs. 1,29,93,42,000. Similar approximate earnings during the year 1950-51, from April 1950 to February 1951, were Rs. 1,20,64,58,000.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether air-conditioned coaches are running on all lines, or only on some lines?

Shri Santhanam: Only on some lines.

Shri Sidhva: Of the passenger traffic earnings, may I know the amount collected from tourists?

Shri Santhanam: We do not issue special tourist tickets. They take ordinary passenger's tickets and the amount is included in the ordinary earnings.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know what is the income derived from penalties imposed on ticketless travellers and is it commensurate with the establishment charges incurred in this connection?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the actual figures. But we recover many more times the expenditure on the ticket checking staff.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is it a fact that the fall in goods traffic is due to the fact that wagons were not available?

Shri Santhanam: I have not been able to follow the hon. Member's question. We have got an income of Rs. 129 crores and that cannot be due to wagons not being available.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister has stated on a previous occasion that a special Tourist Section has been opened in the Railways. As such may I know whether an account is kept of the number of tourists and the railway income from that direction?

Mr. Speaker: He has already stated.....

Shri Sidhva: He says that it is included in all the tickets. When a special department has been opened for this purpose do they not keep a separate account?

Shri Santhanam: There is a special Section in the Transport Ministry and not in the Railway Ministry.

COTTON CULTIVATION

*2535. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase is estimated in the acreage of cotton cultivation in the current year; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). According to the second estimate of cotton the acreage under cotton in India is placed at 10·05 million acres during 1950-51 as against 9·13 million acres during the corresponding period of last year, thus showing an increase of 0·92 million acres.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this increase in acreage under cotton cultivation has been at the cost of food cultivation and, if so, to what extent?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, compared to the pre-war period there has been a reduction in the area under cotton in India of the order of 9 million acres. The full target of cotton had to be achieved in order to maintain the industries and to earn foreign exchange necessary for the import of food. Therefore, as has been repeatedly mentioned by me, the integrated programme was formulated under which additional acreage is attempted to be put under cotton and jute cultivation.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether any survey or enquiry is being undertaken in cotton growing areas to find out the extent of acreage of culturable waste which can be brought under cotton cultivation and, if so, what are the steps taken in that direction?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Government of India has addressed the State Governments to find out the exact position with regard to culturable waste. No such enquiry, as far as I know, has been initiated by the Government of India.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I want to know what steps are being taken to increase the acreage under cotton cultivation by bringing new lands under cultivation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, certain large areas which have got potential value so far as cotton growing is concerned, are being put under intensive cultivation and all the acres in that area are being studied to find out whether it is possible to grow cotton.

Shri T. N. Singh: In the areas in which cotton cultivation has increased may I know to what extent the area under food crops has gone down?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, if the hon. Member wants details I would like to have notice. I cannot give any figures districtwise, nor am I in a position at present to say that so many thousand acres have gone down. But, as I have already pointed out, if the full scheme is put through, there will be a deficiency of 9 lakh tons so far as food is concerned. That is the general figure taking both cotton and jute into account.

Thakur Lal Singh: Even the land revenue of those lands which were under cereals, such as wheat etc., cultivation was remitted if they grew cotton. So I would like to know how much loss the Government suffered on account of this remission of land revenue and how much loss of grain they suffered on account of the fall in the production of wheat. In Bhopal of course it was...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. M. Munshi: In order to stimulate the production of cotton last year it was proposed to remit the revenue in certain States. As to how much has been remitted I must have notice as I must collect the figures from the State Governments.

Sardar B. S. Man: What arrangements are being made to provide marketing facilities to the areas where there was no cotton cultivation before but which have now come under cotton cultivation, particularly the American one?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as these areas are concerned certain facilities are given where cotton is intended to be grown. As regards the question about the American variety I would like to have notice.

CALCUTTA TELEPHONE SYSTEM

*2536. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of exchanges proposed to be constructed for implementing the scheme of automatisation of the Calcutta Telephone System; and

(b) the estimated expenditure for the construction of the Bank Central Exchange of the Calcutta Telephones on the site of the old Dalhousie Institute under the following heads—

(i) purchase of site; (ii) construction of building; (iii) purchase of equipments; and (iv) purchase of cables and associated stores?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 13.

(b) (i) Rs. 22,27,500.

(ii) Rs. 93,40,000.

(iii) Rs. 2,66,25,000.

(iv) Rs. 7,90,000.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the estimated date when the construction of the building for this exchange will be completed and when it will open?

Shri Kidwai: I have said that there are thirteen exchanges. I would like to know to which particular exchange the hon. Member is referring.

Dr. M. M. Das: The Bank Central Exchange.

Shri Kidwai: The building will be completed in 1953.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total number of lines proposed for this exchange?

Shri Kidwai: At the initial stages the number of lines will be 48,000, but it is capable of being extended to 88,000.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the exchanges which are proposed to be constructed are in Calcutta proper or in the surrounding industrial area?

Shri Kidwai: Some are in Calcutta proper and some are in the surrounding area.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the work has been progressing according to schedule or whether it has fallen back?

Shri Kidwai: It has fallen back because the construction took more time than we thought it would take.

Shri A. C. Guha: By what time do Government expect the automatic system to be completed in Calcutta?

Shri Kidwai: I think we will start giving telephone connections in the early part of 1953.

Shri A. C. Guha: To all the exchanges?

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

RAILWAY INSPECTORATE

*2537. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the functions and numerical strength of the Government Inspectorate of Railways;

(b) the qualifications and salaries including D.A. of the present incumbents;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of the Inspectors; and

(d) what particular varieties of accidents are inquired into by the said inspectors?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Two statements giving the information required are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 23].

(c) Government have under consideration the question of reorganising the Railway Inspectorate to bring it into line with the regrouping of Railways, but it is not possible to say at present whether this will involve an increase in the number of Inspectors.

(d) The Inspectors are required, unless unavoidably prevented, to hold an inquiry into every accident to a passenger-carrying train which is attended with loss of life or with serious injury to any person in the desirable or necessary; for example, value of approximately Rs. 20,000 or more. They may, however, hold an inquiry into any accident, if, in their opinion, the contingent circumstances are such as to render this course desirable or necessary; for example, an accident to a train which is attended with neither casualties nor appreciable damage to property, but which arises from causes which, if allowed to persist, may result in a serious accident to a train carrying passengers.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the reason why this Railway Inspectorate has been placed under the Communications Ministry?

Shri Kidwai: Well, Sir, I have inherited it. I myself was curious to know about it and I was told that it was thought desirable that it should

be independent of the railway administration.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is one of the functions of the Railway Inspectorate to examine carriages and wagons and to declare them unfit for service if necessary?

Shri Kidwai: I think it is one of their functions.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is compulsory for the Railway Inspectorate to invite and take evidence of the public during the time of investigating a serious accident?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, if that is found necessary.

COMMUNISTS IN MANIPUR

*2538. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to lay on the Table a statement regarding the subversive and anti-State activities of the Communists in the State of Manipur during December last?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): I place on the Table of the House a statement containing the relevant information.

STATEMENT

The subversive and anti-State activities of Communities in Manipur during December 1950.

Four incidents involving Communists have been reported to the Government of India from Manipur in December 1950. In one incident two arrested persons were rescued from a police party of three along with three rifles and a tommy gun. The same day two Communists tried to secure entry into the house of a Chowkidar. They were challenged by the guard whereupon they tried to assault the guard. In the incident one of them was killed and the other arrested. In the second incident a party posing as police called one man from his house and murdered him. In the third case a chowkidar was taken out in the same manner and seriously injured. In the fourth case also a police helper was taken out on the same pretext and assaulted with lathies. In all these cases investigations are proceeding.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what is the present condition of Manipur so far as these anti-State and subversive activities of the Communists were concerned?

Shri Santhanam: I regret to inform the hon. Member that they are still continuing.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the exact position? I want to know whether these incidents are happening in large numbers or they are practically stopped?

Shri Santhanam: During 1951, there have been incidents on 6th January, 23rd January, 14th February and 15th February.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the magnitude of these incidents and what is the number of men killed?

Shri Santhanam: Generally, it is not a case of men killed but a sort of intimidation and coercion of people likely to help the Government against the Communists.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that large amounts of arms and ammunition have been unearthed in Manipur by the Police?

Shri Santhanam: In certain cases some kinds of arms have been unearthed and recovered.

Shri Rathnaswamy: In view of the fact that the Tribal people in and around Manipur are likely to be influenced by the Communist activities in view of their backwardness all round, what positive measures have been launched by the Government to give them adequate protection against such dangers?

Shri Santhanam: The Government are taking all kinds of police action, and whenever necessary, military measures are also undertaken.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in the recent press reports that the Chief Commissioner of Manipur, Mr. Himatsingh Maheshwari, has submitted his resignation because the situation was getting a bit too difficult for him?

Shri Santhanam: I have no such information.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Is it a fact that in the so-called campaign against the Communists, the Manipur Government have arrested the General Secretary of the Congress, the ex-President of the Congress and other Members of the Congress executive?

Shri Santhanam: I have no information on the point.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

REVENUES FROM ROADS AND MOTOR TRANSPORT

*2539. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue collected by the Government of India from roads and motor transport during the last three years; and

(b) the amount spent on roads—including construction of new roads, maintenance and repairs of old ones—during those three years?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The total (gross) revenue collected by the Central Government during the last three years *i.e.* 1947-48 (post-partition period only), 1948-49, and 1949-50 from roads and motor transport including the entire customs and excise duties on motor vehicles, their accessories, tyres and tubes, and motor spirit, is Rs. 5,656 lakhs.

(b) The total expenditure incurred by the Government of India on construction, repair and maintenance of roads (including National Highways and appropriations to the Central Road Fund) during 1947-48 (post-partition period only), 1948-49 and 1949-50 is Rs. 1804.87 lakhs.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the money is distributed to the States according to the collections made in the area *i.e.* while making allocation if any account is taken as to how the money has been collected?

Shri Santhanam: May I ask if the hon. Member refers to the Road Fund distribution?

Shri A. C. Guha: No. I want to know how the money collected is distributed to the States.

Shri Santhanam: Sir, so far as the expenditure is concerned, a part is spent on the Centrally Administered Part C States, a part on the maintenance and construction of National Highways and a part is distributed to the States from the Road Fund according to their petrol consumption.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what has been done in the two Part C States, Manipur and Tripura, where there is practically no road communication?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, we have some appropriations for road construction for both Tripura and Manipur and that will be found in the Budget Estimates for 1951-52.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that within these two States even internal communication is not possible excepting in very few places and beyond three miles from Agertala, there is practically no communication?

Shri Santhanam: We are developing the communications. The hon. Member knows that these two States came into our control only recently and we are trying to accelerate the pace of construction.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: What is the total amount that has been given for building new roads in the border areas of Eastern Pakistan—West and East Bengal?

Shri Santhanam: I have got the information here about the total amounts allotted to West Bengal. If the hon. Member wants the particulars regarding the border roads, I remember to have answered the question and I am prepared to answer the question again if she will put a separate question.

Dr. Deshmukh: Am I correct in saying that the balance with the Government on account of this item is over Rs. 40 crores and may I know what steps Government are taking to spend it more quickly than they have done in the past?

Shri Santhanam: There is no such balance. The amount of receipts goes to the General Revenues and is part of the Consolidated Fund of India.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what part of the amount stated has been spent on construction of strategic roads and if the amount spent on Highway roads has been debited to the different accounts or not?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, in certain cases the Defence Ministry gives some amount as grant, but all the roads come under the Transport Ministry; they include strategic, non-strategic, National Highways and all the other roads.

Dr. Parmar: Is it proposed that revenues received from roads, etc. should be spent on roads alone and not transferred to General Revenues? Is it before the consideration of the Government?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. Customs duties on motor vehicles and excise duties are also liable to contribute to the General Revenues.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister stated that Government are making certain allocations this year. May I ask what improvements in road communications have been effected in these two States in the last two years?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. We are building up the communication road between Tripura State and Assam and as regards the Road Fund, when the Debate on the Transport Ministry comes up, I am prepared to give all the details.

Mr. Speaker: Next question, Mr. Guha.

LOCOMOTIVE FACTORY AT CHITTARANJAN

*2540. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any officer to be employed at the Locomotive Factory at Chittaranjan was sent abroad at Government cost for training in mechanical engineering;

(b) if so, the cost incurred; and

(c) how he has been employed since his return from abroad?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) One Class I Officer and two Class III staff of the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan have recently been sent to the U.K. for training with the Locomotive Manufacturing Company Ltd.

(b) The total estimated cost is approximately Rs. 30,000.

(c) They have not yet returned from the U.K.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has no officer come back after getting training in foreign countries as a Mechanical Engineer?

Shri Santhanam: This is a special deputation for training in particular aspects of locomotive manufacture. One officer and two other subordinates left on 3rd November, 1950 for six months' training, and they have not yet returned.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question is whether any other officer was sent abroad for getting training as Mechanical Engineer and whether any officer has come back after getting that training?

Shri Santhanam: Not with reference to this particular project; these are the only people who have been sent.

Shri A. C. Guha: May not be with reference to this particular project; I want to know whether there was any officer so sent and whether that officer has come back?

Mr. Speaker: Previously to the despatch of these two officers?

Shri Santhanam: Does the hon. Member want to know whether any Railway officers have ever been sent to foreign countries for training in Mechanical Engineering?

Shri A. C. Guha: For the Chittaranjan Factory.

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice.

HINDI TELEGRAMS

*2541. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of Hindi telegrams despatched through different telegraph offices in India in the year 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): The number of Hindi telegrams despatched through different telegraph offices accepting such messages during the year 1950 is given below:

Agra	387
Ajmer	41
Allahabad	555
Banaras	362
Bareilly	141
Gaya	574
Indore	101
Jaipur	86
Jubbulpore	340
Kanpur	714
Lucknow	381
Muzaffarpur	123
Nagpur	69
New Delhi	133
Patna	371
Ranchi	146
	4,524

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या सरकार के पास इस प्रकार की कोई योजना है कि हर वर्ष कितने तारघरों में हिन्दी के तार भेजने की व्यवस्था की जायगी ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Have the Government any scheme regarding the number of Telegraph Offices where arrangements would be made every year to despatch telegrams in Hindi?]

श्री किदवाई : मैं ने एक से ज्यादा मर्तबा इस हाउस में अर्ज किया कि जहां जहां हम ट्रेनिंग पूरी करते जायेंगे इसको फैलाते जायेंगे ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** I have stated in the House more than once that we will extend this scheme gradually to all those places where training is completed.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि ट्रेनिंग पूरी करने के मामले में क्या सरकार के पास कोई

योजना है कि इतने दिनों के अन्दर ट्रेनिंग पूरी करके हर वर्ष कम से कम इतने तार-घरों में हिन्दी के तार भेजने की व्यवस्था की जायगी ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** I want to know whether the Government have any scheme regarding the number of telegraph offices where arrangements would be made every year to despatch telegrams in Hindi after the completion of training in a particular period?]

श्री किदवाई : अभी तक तो कोशिश यह रही है कि जहां जहां से डिमान्ड आती है, अगर वहां आसानी से इसको किया जा सकता है, किया जाय ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** Till now we have been trying to make such arrangements, if there is not much difficulty in it, at all places where there is a demand for it.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सन् १९५१ में सरकार कितने तारघरों में हिन्दी के तार भेजने की व्यवस्था करने की आशा करती है ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know the the number of telegraph offices where the Government hope to complete arrangements of despatching telegrams in Hindi in the year 1951?]

श्री किदवाई : जहां जहां सरकार को यह उम्मीद होगी कि कुछ लोग तार भेजने वाले हिन्दी के हैं वहां वहां इसको फैलाती जायगी ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** The Government will extend it to places where they would find that there are people who wish to send telegrams in Hindi.]

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Lala Achint Ram: May I ask one supplementary question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I think we have sufficiently discussed this matter previously also. Next question.

DACOITIES

*2542. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of armed dacoities which have taken place in Part C States, since the formation of each such State to the end of 1950;

(b) how many of the dacoits were captured, tried and convicted;

(c) how many otherwise accounted for; and

(d) whether there are any dacoits in any such State still unaccounted for?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (d). A statement containing the relevant information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 24.]

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire if, in this frontier and sea port State of Kutch, any of the suspected persons shown in the last column of the statement as persons required in connection with the dacoities but not yet captured, are coming from Pakistan or running away back into Pakistan, particularly by sea or land?

Shri Santhanam: The statement shows that there are 16 people in Kutch who are required in connection with dacoities, but not yet captured. I am afraid there is no information regarding where they are and where they have gone.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I know whether any complaint has been received from Kutch as regards the adequacy of the local police as well as special regional police and military stationed in Kutch for such purposes?

Shri Santhanam: We are trying to give the Chief Commissioner as much assistance as is possible.

Prof. K. T. Shah: My question was whether any complaint had been received that it was not sufficient.

Shri Santhanam: I have no information.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the hon. Minister is in a position to give figures for Delhi: how many dacoities have taken place, how many cases are untraced?

Shri Santhanam: This Ministry deals only with the new Part 'C' States. The old Part 'C' States are dealt with by the Home Ministry.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the Government has incurred an expenditure of several lakhs for the capture of a famous gang of dacoits under the leadership of Devi Singh, without success, in the Vindhya Pradesh?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know how many of these dacoities are political dacoities?

Shri Santhanam: In Manipur and Tripura, a large number of dacoities are attributed to political motives.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: On a point of information, Sir, the question is a general question applicable to all the Part 'C' States. For the simple reason that it is addressed to the Ministry of States, is it right that the information regarding other Part 'C' States should not be given?

Mr. Speaker: I think the general words are to be interpreted in the light of the specific Ministry to which the question is put. That Ministry is expected to answer the question, though the words may be general, to the extent to which they possess information.

Let us go to the next question.

ADVISORY COUNCILS IN PART C STATES

*2543. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the strength and composition of the Advisory Council in each Part C State;

(b) how often has each of these Councils met in the year 1948-49, and 1949-50; and

(c) how many of their recommendations were accepted, or acted upon, by the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). I place on the Table of the House a statement containing the relevant information. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 25].

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire what is the nature of the recommendations made by the Advisory Council? On what subjects?

Shri Santhanam: The recommendations relate to all kinds of subjects relating to the administration.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire specifically, with reference to the reported merger of the States, particularly Kutch, whether the Advisory Council had made any recommendation?

Shri Santhanam: I think the information was given on the floor of the House that there was no proposal to merge Kutch.

Prof. K. T. Shah: My question was, whatever proposal was declared here, whether the Advisory Council had made any recommendation.

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the details of the resolutions passed.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Are these recommendations unanimous or are there any differences amongst the Members of the Advisory Council?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the details of these things.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if Chief Commissioners' Councils, as announced on that day by the hon. Minister of States, on the floor of the House, are going to be constituted in the States where they are not in existence at present even before the Bill in that connection is introduced in this House?

Shri Santhanam: The question of constituting Advisory Councils for the interim period in Vindhya Pradesh will be considered in the light of the hon. Minister's statement in Parliament on 16th March, 1951.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PART C STATES

*2544. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the receipts and expenditure of each Part C States in the years 1948-49, and 1949-50, pointing out particularly the amount spent in each case on developmental projects in each of these States in the years mentioned above?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): A statement containing the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 26.]

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire what are the items of expenditure classed as developmental expenditure?

Shri Santhanam: Education, health, roads, veterinary department, fisheries, etc.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Do the figures given relate to current expenditure or new projects of development proper on the items that the hon. Minister has mentioned?

Shri Santhanam: The actual figures include both current expenditure as well as expenditure on new development projects.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Does development also include current expenditure? Is current expenditure also called developmental?

Mr. Speaker: The figures include both current expenditure and expenditure on development.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the statement itself that he has supplied and the considerable variation that occurs as between the different States from something like 5 to 7 per cent. to as much as 30 per cent. in some cases, on these items which he calls developmental items? May I know whether there is any policy in regard to bringing these States up to any kind of uniformity in administration and developmental projects?

Shri Santhanam: I do not quite understand. The States are varying in size and revenue. Allotments from the Centre depend on their schemes as well as the size and other necessities of each State.

Prof. K. T. Shah: My question was only with reference to the expenditure and proportion of expenditure, which, of course, varies according to the size and population of the various States. But, the question is, even in this varying expenditure, there is an immense variation in the amounts devoted to developmental expenditure. My question therefore is whether there is any policy to bring it up to anything like a comparable level of expenditure?

Shri Santhanam: It is the policy to bring up each of these Part 'C' States to at least the average standard of the rest of India. But, the rate at which the States could be pulled up depends upon the condition of each State.

G. I. Wires for Automatic Telephones

*2545. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that over 1,000 automatic telephones have been lying idle in Trivandrum for a long time because of the non-availability of G. I. Wires and Government are losing a substantial amount of revenue on that account?

(b) If so, what action was taken to make the wire available?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) A new automatic exchange was installed in Trivandrum on the 17th October, 1950. Some connections could not be given on account of non-availability of iron wire.

(b) A quantity of wire has now been obtained and has been sent to Trivandrum.

Shri Alexander: May I know how far the replacement of the semi-automatic phones by automatic phones has been completed in Trivandrum and when will the process be completed?

Shri Kidwai: I hope it will be possible to bring all the non-automatic lines to the new exchange and some lines will still remain to be allotted to new applicants.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the wires required for the automatic phones were not at all imported during the year in question?

Shri Kidwai: An order was placed and the wires were received late. We are enquiring into the causes of delay but all our purchases are through the Industry and Supply Ministry.

National Highways

*2546. **Dr. V. Subramaniam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the cost of maintaining the National Highways for the years 1944 to 1950?

(b) What is the amount paid for each year to each state during the same period?

(c) What is the cost of maintenance per mile in each State during the same period?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). The Centre assumed liability for the construction and maintenance of National Highways in the Part 'A' States with effect from the 1st April 1947 and in the Part B States from 1st April 1950.

A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 27].

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Sir, is it a fact that the portions of National Highways passing through municipal limits or through the limits of big corporations are in a bad condition and if so, what is the policy regarding the improving of the condition of these portions of the National Highways?

Shri Santhanam: At present the National Highway passing through municipal limits is not considered part of the National Highway and the responsibility for the construction and maintenance of that portion rests with the municipal body.

Shri Shiva Rao: Sir, with reference to the Statement which the hon. Minister has laid on the Table of the House, may I know whether there is any reference in it to the National Highway from Cape Comorin to Bombay?

Shri Santhanam: There is still no such National Highway, we propose to develop it as a Semi-National Highway.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is it a fact that the cost of materials and so the cost of maintenance have gone very high, and if so, what extra grant is being proposed to be given by the Government of India for the proper maintenance of the National Highways?

Shri Santhanam: It will be clear from the Statement that the maintenance cost also is going up. I am prepared to admit that we have not yet been able to maintain our National Highways to the standard I would like to, but that depends upon the state of finances of the Government of India.

Shri M. L. Gupta: Sir, is the hon. Minister aware that a traveller by the Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Delhi is delayed by about three hours in crossing the river Sone because there is no road bridge there, neither adequate facilities to load or unload a car are available?

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. Member is not asking for information but making a suggestion for action.

Shri M. L. Gupta: No, Sir. I am asking whether.....

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it is in the form of a question, but he wants a bridge to be constructed at the place.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, what is the definition of a Semi-National Highway and where has it been defined in the literature provided?

Shri Santhanam: A Semi-National Highway is a Highway which is maintained both by the Centre and the State jointly.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, the hon. Minister stated that the responsibility of maintaining in good condition the portion of the National Highway passing through a municipality is that of the municipality. Where there is a very long stretch of such road in the municipal limits, in such a case also, has the municipality to maintain it and meet the cost from its own funds?

Shri Santhanam: Yes. That was the Nagpur Plan. This has come up for reconsideration at one of the Transport Advisory Council meetings and it has been agreed to reconsider the matter when finances improve.

Manufacture of Telephone Equipments

*2547. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many workshops in India other than the one at Bangalore are engaged in the manufacture of telephone equipments;

(b) how many skilled technicians are working in these workshops; and

(c) how far "own your telephone" system has helped Government to improve Telephone Development Scheme?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Four.

(b) A total of 2,039.

(c) The "own your telephone" system has enabled the Government to collect advance rentals of the order of Rs. 215 lakhs up to the 20th February 1951. This amount is being utilised on expansion of telephone systems in general by supplementing the capital grant. Sir, I may add that though the question was about workshops other than the one at Bangalore, my answer covers the Bangalore workshop also, and if the hon. Member wants the break-up of the figures, I am prepared to give it to him.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Sir, what is the average monthly production of telephones in these workshops, including the one in Bangalore?

Shri Kidwai: I remember a few days ago there was a question about the average production and the figure was given here; but I do not have the figure now with me.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the average cost of telephones manufactured in this country?

Shri Kidwai: I do not have the figure here.

Shri Rathnaswamy: In view of the fact that we are soon reaching self-sufficiency in the matter of telephone equipments do Government intend stopping the import of these equipment articles from foreign countries and if so since when will they stop it?

Shri Kidwai: Whatever we can manufacture here, we do not import. As I stated the other day, in about three years' time we will be self-sufficient and then we will not import anything, except the raw material that the workshops cannot produce in the country.

Shri Rudrappa: A large number of telephone parts are being imported. Is that due to the shortage of skilled workers in our country or is it due to the shortage of the machinery necessary to make these parts?

Shri Kidwai: We started the factory about three years back and the programme is after the completion of the factory we will manufacture the whole equipment here, say in five years. We are already manufacturing the larger part of the equipment and I hope in another two or three years it will be possible to manufacture all the things required.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Have Government any specific plans for giving facilities for training in the various aspects of the manufacture of telephone equipments?

Shri Kidwai: When the factory is working, we will always accept apprentices for training. In some of the workshops we are accepting apprentices and after getting training, they get employed in these concerns.

PASSENGERS *Satyagraha* AT GORAKHPUR RAILWAY STATION

***2548. Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether there is any truth in the report published in the *Leader*, dated 14th February 1951 that hundreds of passengers offered *Satyagraha* on 12th February 1951, at Gorakhpur Railway station for lack of accommodation in a branch train of Oudh Tirhut Railway and were baton-charged and man-handled by the police?

(b) Is it a fact that Oudh Tirhut Railway due to lack of wagons and sufficient trains, is still running overcrowded as in war time?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The report is highly exaggerated and materially incorrect.

(b) Overcrowding in trains, especially during the *Mela* season, is reported on certain sections over the O.T. Railway. The general position has, however, improved with the introduction of additional trains and more coaches.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: Is it a fact that tickets are issued on Indian Railways without any consideration to the accommodation available and is there any proposal before Government to change this policy?

Shri Santhanam: So far as the III Class and Inter-Class are concerned, it is not possible to coordinate the number of tickets and the number of seats or accommodation available; the accommodation changes from station to station, and so it is not possible to have a complete account. But every effort is made to see that normally as much accommodation as is necessary is available.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether under the existing rules a passenger with a ticket has the inherent right to get accommodation from the Railway authorities?

Shri Santhanam: He has the right to get accommodated in the train, but whether the normal amount or extent of accommodation is available or not is more than anyone can say at any particular moment.

Shri Chaliha: Sir, is the hon. Minister aware that about 300 to 400 persons ride on the roofs of the trains from Katihar to Siliguri every day?

Shri Santhanam: We are increasing the number of trains in that area.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that a passenger with a ticket has not the inherent right to demand and get accommodation from the Railway authorities, may I know why the tickets are issued?

Shri Santhanam: That is one of the risks which any man who buys a ticket takes on himself in the present state of things.

Mr. Speaker: If tickets are refused, then the question will come back the other way. Next question.

BARODA AND MEHSANA RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

***2549. Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the Baroda and Mehsana Workshops of the B. B. and C. I. Railway for the years 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) the policy adopted by Government in the absorption of the staff of Gaekwar Railways in B. B. and C. I. Railway?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The expenditure incurred on the Baroda and Mehsana workshops of the B.B. & C.I. Railway for the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 is given below:

Year	Expenditure incurred on	
	Baroda	Mahsana
	(Figures in lakhs of rupees)	(Figures in lakhs of rupees)
1948	10,17	1,94
1949	19,50	1,73
1950	14,10	1,74

(b) The non-gazetted staff of the Gaekwar Railways have been absorbed in equated posts and grades on the B.B&C.I. Railway as determined by an *Ad hoc* Committee on the basis of the duties and responsibilities of the posts and have been given the option either to elect the C.P.C. Scales of pay or retain their existing scales of pay.

As regards the gazetted staff, the arrangements governing their final absorption are still under examination.

Shri R. Khan: How long will it take to finalise?

Shri Santhanam: So far as class 3 is concerned orders have been finally issued and they are being absorbed. So far as the gazetted staff is concerned, that is still under consideration and I think final orders will be passed very soon.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the number of persons who have not yet been absorbed?

Shri Santhanam: All the people there are in employment but it is a question of fitting them into the B.B.&C.I. system and that is being done.

GROWING OF JUTE IN STATES

***2550. Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiment has been conducted as to the suitability of land and water to grow jute in States other than West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what is the result?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Exploratory trials conducted in Bombay, Madras and Travancore have, generally, yielded encouraging results.

Shri Sanjivayya: Have Government incurred on this experiment any expenditure: and, if so, how much?

Shri K. M. Munshi: They must have incurred expenditure but I would require notice as to the amount.

Shri Sanjivayya: What is the acreage of land at present under jute cultivation and what is the acreage expected to be brought under cultivation next year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as jute cultivation is concerned it is expected to have five lakh acres more land under jute. As regards its distribution in the three States I have mentioned I have not got the figures here. In Bombay 6,000 additional acres were sown in the State. That is all the figures I have got here.

Shri Sanjivayya: May I know whether this Grow more-jute campaign has in any way affected the Grow-more-food campaign?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no doubt that on account of this additional acreage for growing jute, as I have repeatedly told the House, there would be a certain amount of reduction in the acreage under food-grains. But it is intended that that reduction would be made good by paying special attention to intensive cultivation in other areas.

Saikh Mohiuddin: What is the produce per acre in Bombay?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is only experiments that are being made and I do not think we have got the figures of the production.

Shri Rudrappa: Are Government aware that in large parts of Mysore there is culturable waste land, where the rainfall is over 100 inches per year? Has any experiment been conducted in those parts?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Not that I am aware of.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the areas under jute cultivation in the Travancore-Cochin State were paddy fields formerly?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Experiments were being made in Travancore but I cannot give figures as to how many acres.

GO AS YOU LIKE TICKETS

***2551. Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to review the system of issuing "Go As You Like Tickets"; and

(b) if so, from when?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No.

(b) In view of the present high level of passenger traffic and shortage of passenger stock, it is not proposed to re-introduce this concession.

Shri Sidhva: Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar promised in the House that he would consider the question of issuing week-end tickets. What is the position now?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise out of this question. This question relates to "Go as you like" tickets.

LAND UNDER COMMERCIAL CROPS

*2552. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government have any proposals to reduce the area of land under commercial crops, particularly tobacco?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): No, Sir. Certain State Governments have, however, assumed powers to regulate the sowing of crops.

Shri A. Joseph: May I know whether there is any plan with the Government of India to compensate the kisans who are cultivating their land with foodstuffs in areas where they used to grow tobacco, with a view to help the Government?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is no scheme for compensation being given to them.

Saikh Mohiuddin: May I know whether the cultivation of tobacco in Bihar has decreased in comparison with the last two years?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I want notice.

Shri A. Joseph: In view of the delay in import of foodgrains from other countries have Government issued any orders not to cultivate commercial crops so as to meet the food shortage in the next year?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is making a suggestion.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: What is the ratio of the income on foodgrains in relation to the income from money crops per acre?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The income from cash crops is very much larger. I have given the figures to the House once and I have not got them with me at the moment.

FRUIT CULTIVATION

*2554. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any planned scheme before Government for the intensive cultivation during the next few years of fruit as a supplementary or non-cereal substitute food for human consumption; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). At present Government of India grant subsidies to the State Governments for increased production of foodgrains only. There is no Central Scheme for intensive cultivation of fruit trees. The State Governments have, generally been directed to give all possible encouragement to the growing of fruit trees on waste land and along side canals. During the last *Vana Mahotsava* in July, 1950 a large number of fruit trees are reported to have been planted throughout the country.

Shri Raj Kanwar: As a result of the recent trade agreement between India and Pakistan, is more fruit coming to India from Pakistan than before? If so, what is the percentage of the increase?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It does not arise out of this question but if he gives me notice I shall find it out.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that 20 or 30 years ago people in India were more fruit-minded than they are today?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think he can go into past history.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is it a fact that owing to its expensiveness fruit is an article of food which is beyond the capacity of the common man to buy?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I should think so. It is beyond his capacity but it depends upon the fruit also.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether the direction that had been given to State Governments to grow more fruit trees was a part of the *Vana Mahotsava* scheme?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is a parallel movement.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: How many fruit trees have been planted during the last *Vana Mahotsava* celebration and how many of them have borne fruit?

Shri K. M. Munshi: 91,42,033 trees were planted during the last *Vana Mahotsava*. The general report is that one fifth of them have survived. As regards the other question it is a matter of common knowledge that infants bear no fruit.

Short Notice Question and Answer

BREAKDOWN OF THE RATIONING MACHINERY IN BARODA

Shri Rathnaswamy: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the breakdown of the Rationing Machinery in Baroda?

(b) If so since when and what measures have been taken to meet this situation?

(c) What are the parts of Baroda which are worst affected due to this breakdown?

(d) What are the causes that led to these consequences?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Government of Bombay have allotted 6,000 tons of food-grains to Baroda and supplies against this are being rushed to that area.

(c) Rural parts of the district, particularly the talukas of Padra, Savli, Karjan, Sankheda and Dabhoi.

(d) Breakdown was due to inadequate stocks.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that some Congressmen who were serving on the Baroda District Food Advisory Committee resigned *en masse* as a protest against the persistent underestimation of the deteriorating food situation in Baroda by the Minister of Food of the Bombay Government?

Mr. Speaker: I think that question be better put in the Bombay Assembly.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that early intimation was given to the Food Authorities by the Congressmen of those affected areas, and, if so, why did Government not take immediate action?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is really for the Bombay Government to answer.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the total quantity of food grain sent to Baroda during the last three years?

Mr. Speaker: These are all questions for the Bombay Government. The Government of India, as the hon. Member will see, allot to States and the entire internal administration, I believe, is a matter for the States.

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is so.

Shri Rathnaswamy: One more question, Sir. How many acres of land were reclaimed and put under cultivation in Baroda during 1950-51?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I want notice about that.

Shri Sonavane: Are there sufficient stocks of foodgrains in Baroda in order to ensure proper supplies to ration card holders?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The normal requirements of Baroda are about 4,000 tons per month. Against this, as I pointed out, the Bombay Government are despatching 6,000 tons this month, that is in March. Further supplies are being arranged in April. In the rural areas of Baroda where the arrangements had broken down, Government shops have now begun to function.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

*2553. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Traffic Service Bureau of Calcutta submitted a representation on the 24th April 1950, (i) to consider the question of creating Regional Commissioners to hear appeals against the decision of Railway Claim Officers to minimise litigation; and (ii) to consider the desirability of issuing directives on Railway Claim Officers to honour "Letters of Authority" from the claimants under section 77 of the Railway Act, instead of demanding "General Power of Attorney" to avoid costs; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have arrived at any decision?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No representation of 24-4-1950 from the Traffic Service Bureau of Calcutta is traceable as having been received either in Railway Board's office or by the General Manager, E.I. and B. N. Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

ARRAH-SASARAM LIGHT RAILWAY

*2555. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri B. R. Verma, M.L.C. (Bihar), addressed a long letter to the hon. Communication Minister of Bihar in regard to certain grievances of the travelling public on the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway in the Shahabad District of Bihar in the month of September 1950, and forwarded a copy of the same to the Government of India;

(b) if so, have Government taken any step to remove those grievances?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No copy of the communication referred to by the hon. Member is traceable as received by the Government of India. A copy has, however, been obtained from the Government of Bihar.

(b) The State Government, who are directly concerned in the matter, have already taken appropriate action on the complaint received from Shri B. R.

Verma, M.L.C. (Bihar). The report received from the Managing Agents of the railway also indicates that they have taken action on all the points raised by Shri Verma in respect of passenger amenities on that Railway.

PASTURE LAND

*2556. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the extent of land classed as pasture land in the country State-wise in 1947-48;

(b) what is the extent now; and

(c) how many acres of such land have been assigned under the Grow More Food Scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The land classed as pasture land is included partly in the area under forests and partly in the area under "uncultivated land excluding current fallows". The extent of pasture land included in the latter category is not known. So far as forests are concerned, however, the area open to grazing of animals within the forest area under the control of the Forest Departments in 1947-48 was estimated at 70,719 square miles. An additional area of 34,782 square miles was open to grazing of animals which confine themselves to grass. A statement giving the state-wise details is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 28].

(b) The information has not yet become available.

(c) Under the 'Grow More Food Campaign' reclamation of waste land is carried out botn in forest and non-forest areas. A total of 653,000 acres of waste land was reclaimed during 1949-50 by the Central Tractor Organisation and the State Governments. The area planned to be reclaimed during 1950-51 is 671,000 acres. The extent of pasture land included in the reclaimed area is not separately known.

TRAINING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*2557. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of Departmental officers sent to foreign countries for specialised training during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) How many of them have come back after completing their training?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 13 Departmental candidates were sent during 1949-50 and 14 during 1950-51.

(b) 19.

RAILWAY SCHOOLS

*2558. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the various State Railway schools in India—High, Middle, and Primary, Indian and Anglo-Indian with the total number of Indian and Anglo-Indian pupils in each of these schools, and the expenditure *per capita* on Indian and Anglo-Indian pupils;

(b) the qualifications of the teaching staff in each of the Railway schools, and the present salary and scale of pay of each of them; and

(c) whether it is proposed to close down any of these schools, and, if so, why?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The information is being collected from the Railway Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

WOMEN'S WAITING ROOMS

*2559. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that women's waiting rooms, on the B. N. Railway suburban section in West Bengal, have been abolished, without any reference to the Local Advisory Committees or the travelling public; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The women's waiting rooms of the B. N. Railway suburban section in West Bengal have been abolished with the concurrence of the Local Advisory Committees.

(b) The reason for the abolition was that these rooms were not being utilised to any considerable extent and it was considered that the accommodation thus released could be better utilised for third class passengers.

RAILWAY WATCH AND WARD STAFF

*2560. **Shri B. K. Pani:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of staff of the Watch and Ward, B. N. Railway, dismissed, discharged, suspended or otherwise punished during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950; and

(b) how many of the staff referred to above were taken back into their services after their cases were re-examined on appeals?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The total number of staff of the Watch and Ward Department of the B. N. Railway, dismissed, discharged and suspended is as follows:

	1948	1949	1950
(i) Dismissed and discharged	255	105	98
(ii) Suspended	78	100	104

Detailed information is not readily available with regard to the number of staff otherwise punished during the aforesaid years.

(b) The number of staff taken back into service after their cases were re-examined on appeals is as follows:

1948	...	7
1949	...	3
1950	...	5

CITY ALLOWANCES TO RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*2561. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what is the principle of giving city allowances to the railway employees?

(b) In how many places are such city allowances given on the B. N. Railway and what are their names?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) City compensatory and house rent allowances are paid to non-gazetted staff in cities having a population of over 5 lakhs and only house rent allowance to non-gazetted staff in cities having a population of more than one lakh.

(b) Both City Compensatory allowance and house rent allowance are paid at two places on the B. N. Railway *viz.*, Calcutta and Nagpur. Only house rent allowance is paid at three places, *viz.* Asansol, Jamshedpur and Vizagapatam.

VEGETABLE SEEDS SUPPLYING NURSERIES

*2562. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the number of vegetable seeds supplying nurseries which are financially or technically helped by Central Government?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that a great loss in vegetable crop is sustained by the agriculturists due to the unreliable seeds supplied by various nurseries?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Government of India do not give any assistance, technical or financial, to nurseries or vegetable seed merchants. They are however running a Central Vegetable Breeding Station for breeding improved types of vegetable seeds and for producing stock seeds of standard quality for multiplication by growers.

(b) Yes. Government have already drafted a "Seed Act" and recommended its adoption to the State Governments. This Act is intended to regulate the quality, production and distribution of seeds.

DRIED LEAVES AS COMPOST MANURE

*2563. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the dried leaves of the street trees are burnt or are used for compost manure in Delhi?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): A major portion of the dried leaves in Delhi is collected and handed over to the Horticultural Division of the Central Public Works Department for conversion into compost manure. Some portion is also burnt or dumped when the cost of transporting it is uneconomical.

GAS PLANT FOR MANURE PRODUCTION

*2564. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what steps are Government taking to popularise the newly invented gas-plant at the Pusa Research Institute, for production of cow-dung-manure?

(b) How many apparatuses of this gas-plant have been distributed to the villages?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to Prof. Ranga's Starred Question No. 624 on the 4th December, 1950. Quotations are being invited for the fabrication of a plant bigger than the existing pilot plant at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. It is necessary to work out a suitable and practical modification of the existing design so that it may be economical for adoption on a large scale. Popularisation of the plant will be taken upon completion of this work.

(b) The question does not arise till the smallest economic unit has been determined.

NIGHT AIR MAIL SERVICE

*2565. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what are the air lines which are running the daily night mail?

(b) What subsidies, if any, are given to them?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Himalayan Aviation Limited, Calcutta and Air-India

Limited, Bombay, operate night air services. Mail also is carried on these services.

(b) No special subsidies are given to these companies apart from the scheme of financial assistance under which all Indian air companies are paid at 0-9-0 per gallon of petrol used by them.

TOBACCO CULTIVATION

*2566. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land under the cultivation of tobacco in the State of Bihar; and

(b) whether the acreage has been reduced in 1950-51 due to the shortage of food in the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). The area of land under tobacco in Bihar in 1949-50 was estimated at 55,455 acres, as compared with 60,760 acres in 1948-49. Figures for 1950-51 are not yet available.

CARRIAGE OF WAGONS AT MANIHARIGHAT

*2567. **Shri Chaliha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the capacity of the ferry to carry Railway wagons across the Ganga at Maniharighat on the Assam Rail-link?

(b) What is the percentage of goods carried over the Assam Rail link to total goods carried to Assam in the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 by the River steamer services and by Railways?

(c) What is the time taken to carry tea from the district of Sibsagar and Dibrugarh to T. T. Shed Kidderpore?

(d) What percentage of tea has been declared unfit for human consumption carried over the Assam Rail link in the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) There is no wagon ferry service between Sakrigalighat and Manihari Ghat across the Ganga.

(b) It is not possible to give exact percentages of goods carried over the Assam Rail Link to the total goods carried to Assam by the River Steamer Services and by Railways as precise information about goods carried by River Steamer Services is not available.

(c) Time taken to carry tea by all rail routes from the District of Sibsagar to Kidderpore varies from 17 to 30 days. The time taken from Dibrugarh to Kidderpore is 15 - 20 days.

(d) The percentage of tea declared unfit for human consumption carried over the Assam Rail Link in the years 1949 and 1950 has been one tea chest out of one lac tea chests.

SUGAR AND WHEAT FOR ASSAM

*2568. **Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the non-availability of sugar and wheat in the towns of Assam and in the villages;

(b) whether any rice has been exported in the years 1950 and 1951 from Assam, if so, what quantity; and

(c) whether any rice has been allotted to the State of Assam in the year 1951 and whether it has reached the State already and if not, what steps have been taken to transport rice to the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Government have not received any reports.

(b) During 1950, exports of rice amounted to 10,400 tons while imports into Assam amounted to 6,500 tons. There have been no exports during 1951.

(c) Since the beginning of 1951, 15,000 tons of rice, consisting of 5,000 tons from imports, 7,000 tons from Tripura and 3,000 tons from Manipur, has been allotted to Assam. 5,000 tons allotted from imports has been despatched. The necessary arrangements for lifting quotas from Tripura and Manipur are being made by the Assam Government.

'INLAND LETTER' SYSTEM

*2569. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state when was the 'Inland letter' system introduced?

(b) What is the total amount realised by sale of such letter forms?

(c) What is the cost of printing such forms?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 2nd October 1950.

(b) About Rs. 6½ lakhs upto the 31st January 1951.

(c) Embossed letter-sheets cost Rs. 9-8-0 per thousand.

POST OFFICES GUIDE

*2570. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state when was the last Post Offices Guide printed?

(b) What arrangements are made to make the necessary corrections due to alteration of names of places and addition of names of new Post offices?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The last Post Office Guide corrected up to 30th June 1948, was published in two parts: the first part was made available to the public in June, 1949, and the second part in June, 1950.

(b) The corrections caused by the alteration of names of places and addition of names of new post offices are published in weekly Circulars issued by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs. All these changes are embodied in the subsequent edition.

IRON AND STEEL QUOTA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES

*2571. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the agriculturists of Madhya Pradesh are suffering for want of allotment of sufficient iron and steel quota for their bullock carts tyres and other agricultural purposes?

(b) What is the increased agricultural iron and steel quota in the year 1950?

(c) Do Government propose to allot more quota than that of the last year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The Government of India have no information on the point.

(b) A separate quota of iron and steel for agricultural purposes was first allocated from April, 1949. During the period January to December 1950, 6560 tons of steel were allotted to Madhya Pradesh Government as against 4107·5 tons during April to December, 1949.

(c) Allocations are made with reference to total demands and available supply. In view of the existing international situation, the supply position of iron and steel has deteriorated during recent months; and it does not, therefore, appear to be feasible to increase the quota of Madhya Pradesh in the near future.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*2572. **Shri Bhatt:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced as capital to the Delhi Transport Service by the Government of India till today;

(b) the amount received by way of interest yearwise and the percentage of interest;

(c) the gross incomes, expenditures itemwise and net profits since the running of the Delhi Transport Service;

(d) the total number of serviceable and unserviceable buses in the last three years; and

(e) the number of passengers carried, routes opened, route mileage covered in the last three years by the Delhi Transport Service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). The information asked for is given on pages 28-29 of Part I of the annual report of Ministry of Transport for the year 1950-51, copies of which have been circulated to Members of Parliament. The rate of interest on Capital was fixed at 3·2 per cent. during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 when the service was operated departmentally. The rate of interest payable by the Delhi Road Transport Authority which took over the undertaking on the 1st April 1950 has not so far been fixed.

(d) and (e). Five statements giving the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 29.]

Vanamahotsava

*2573. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have been directed to observe the Second *Vanamahotsava* in July next;

(b) if so, what is the programme for that *Vanamahotsava*;

(c) how many trees in all were country during the last *Vanamahotsava*, and how many of them have survived; and

(d) the other concrete results of the last *Vanamahotsava*?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the letter issued to the State Governments is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 30.]

(c) and (d). About 3·64 crores of trees were planted throughout the country during the last *Vanamahotsava*. Information from Assam, Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Jammu and Kashmir States is still awaited. Exact information regarding the number of trees which will survive is not available yet as a large percentage of the trees which are seemingly dead will put forth new shoots during the coming monsoon. Figures of the number of trees which have survived are not yet available but estimates sent by

Limited, Bombay, operate night air services. Mail also is carried on these services.

(b) No special subsidies are given to these companies apart from the scheme of financial assistance under which all Indian air companies are paid at 0-9-0 per gallon of petrol used by them.

TOBACCO CULTIVATION

*2566. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land under the cultivation of tobacco in the State of Bihar; and

(b) whether the acreage has been reduced in 1950-51 due to the shortage of food in the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) and (b). The area of land under tobacco in Bihar in 1949-50 was estimated at 55,455 acres, as compared with 60,760 acres in 1948-49. Figures for 1950-51 are not yet available.

CARRIAGE OF WAGONS AT MANIHARIGHAT

*2567. **Shri Chaliha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the capacity of the ferry to carry Railway wagons across the Ganga at Maniharighat on the Assam Rail-link?

(b) What is the percentage of goods carried over the Assam Rail link to total goods carried to Assam in the years 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 by the River steamer services and by Railways?

(c) What is the time taken to carry tea from the district of Sibsagar and Dibrugarh to T. T. Shed Kidderpore?

(d) What percentage of tea has been declared unfit for human consumption carried over the Assam Rail link in the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) There is no wagon ferry service between Sakrigalighat and Manihari Ghat across the Ganga.

(b) It is not possible to give exact percentages of goods carried over the Assam Rail Link to the total goods carried to Assam by the River Steamer Services and by Railways as precise information about goods carried by River Steamer Services is not available.

(c) Time taken to carry tea by all rail routes from the District of Sibsagar to Kidderpore varies from 17 to 30 days. The time taken from Dibrugarh to Kidderpore is 15 - 20 days.

(d) The percentage of tea declared unfit for human consumption carried over the Assam Rail Link in the years 1949 and 1950 has been one tea chest out of one lac tea chests.

SUGAR AND WHEAT FOR ASSAM

*2568. **Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the non-availability of sugar and wheat in the towns of Assam and in the villages;

(b) whether any rice has been exported in the years 1950 and 1951 from Assam, if so, what quantity; and

(c) whether any rice has been allotted to the State of Assam in the year 1951 and whether it has reached the State already and if not, what steps have been taken to transport rice to the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Government have not received any reports.

(b) During 1950, exports of rice amounted to 10,400 tons while imports into Assam amounted to 6,500 tons. There have been no exports during 1951.

(c) Since the beginning of 1951, 15,000 tons of rice, consisting of 5,000 tons from imports, 7,000 tons from Tripura and 3,000 tons from Manipur, has been allotted to Assam. 5,000 tons allotted from imports has been despatched. The necessary arrangements for lifting quotas from Tripura and Manipur are being made by the Assam Government.

'INLAND LETTER' SYSTEM

*2569. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state when was the 'Inland letter' system introduced?

(b) What is the total amount realised by sale of such letter forms?

(c) What is the cost of printing such forms?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 2nd October 1950.

(b) About Rs. 6½ lakhs upto the 31st January 1951.

(c) Embossed letter-sheets cost Rs. 9-8-0 per thousand.

POST OFFICES GUIDE

*2570. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state when was the last Post Offices Guide printed?

(b) What arrangements are made to make the necessary corrections due

to alteration of names of places and addition of names of new Post offices?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The last Post Office Guide corrected up to 30th June 1948, was published in two parts; the first part was made available to the public in June, 1949, and the second part in June, 1950.

(b) The corrections caused by the alteration of names of places and addition of names of new post offices are published in weekly Circulars issued by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs. All these changes are embodied in the subsequent edition.

IRON AND STEEL QUOTA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES

*2571. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the agriculturists of Madhya Pradesh are suffering for want of allotment of sufficient iron and steel quota for their bullock carts tyres and other agricultural purposes?

(b) What is the increased agricultural iron and steel quota in the year 1950?

(c) Do Government propose to allot more quota than that of the last year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) The Government of India have no information on the point.

(b) A separate quota of iron and steel for agricultural purposes was first allocated from April, 1949. During the period January to December 1950, 6560 tons of steel were allotted to Madhya Pradesh Government as against 4107·5 tons during April to December, 1949.

(c) Allocations are made with reference to total demands and available supply. In view of the existing international situation, the supply position of iron and steel has deteriorated during recent months; and it does not, therefore, appear to be feasible to increase the quota of Madhya Pradesh in the near future.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*2572. **Shri Bhatt:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced as capital to the Delhi Transport Service by the Government of India till today;

(b) the amount received by way of interest yearwise and the percentage of interest;

(c) the gross incomes, expenditures itemwise and net profits since the running of the Delhi Transport Service;

(d) the total number of serviceable and unserviceable buses in the last three years; and

(e) the number of passengers carried, routes opened, route mileage covered in the last three years by the Delhi Transport Service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). The information asked for is given on pages 28-29 of Part I of the annual report of Ministry of Transport for the year 1950-51, copies of which have been circulated to Members of Parliament. The rate of interest on Capital was fixed at 3·2 per cent. during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 when the service was operated departmentally. The rate of interest payable by the Delhi Road Transport Authority which took over the undertaking on the 1st April 1950 has not so far been fixed.

(d) and (e). Five statements giving the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 29.]

Vanamahotsava

*2573. Shri Kamath: Will the Ministers of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have been directed to observe the Second *Vanamahotsava* in July next;

(b) if so, what is the programme for that *Vanamahotsava*;

(c) how many trees in all were country during the last *Vanamahotsava*, and how many of them have survived; and

(d) the other concrete results of the last *Vanamahotsava*?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the letter issued to the State Governments is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 30.]

(c) and (d). About 3·64 crores of trees were planted throughout the country during the last *Vanamahotsava*. Information from Assam, Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Jammu and Kashmir States is still awaited. Exact information regarding the number of trees which will survive is not available yet as a large percentage of the trees which are seemingly dead will put forth new shoots during the coming monsoon. Figures of the number of trees which have survived are not yet available but estimates sent by

some States show that about 50 per cent. have survived

TRACTORS AND LAND RECLAMATION

153. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister **of Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government purchased tractors in order to reclaim three million acres of *kans* infested land;

(b) how many acres of such land have actually been reclaimed up to date;

(c) whether the target for 180 tractors was 150,000 acres, if so, why it could not be reached;

(d) the period that elapsed between the receipt of tractors in Bombay and their despatch to Delhi or to the sites concerned;

(e) whether, along with the tractors, Government purchased hundreds of British-made root rakes and bulldozers;

(f) if so, to what use they have been put; and

(g) whether it is a fact that 30 heavy-duty deep-tillage cultivators despatched from Bombay in 1947 in 15 railway wagons have still not reached New Delhi?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes. It is the intention of the Government of India to reclaim three million acres of *Kans* infested land with the help of 345 tractors in a period of seven years beginning with 1950. 150 tractors were accordingly purchased for use during 1950 and an additional 60 for use in 1951. During the 1950 season, only 140 tractors could, however, be put into operation as the remaining ten were received too late for operations. All the 210 tractors are working this season.

(b) The total area reclaimed with the help of these tractors upto the 28th February, 1951 is 76,728 acres. Besides, another 1,55,542 acres have been reclaimed with the help of old tractors taken over from American Army Surpluses in 1946.

(c) The target for 150 tractors during 1950 was 150,000 acres but this target was subject to each unit of 15 tractors working for a minimum of 20,000 hours. Owing to the late arrival of machinery and equipment, only 33 per cent. of the required hours could be worked, and 11,056 hours were spent on bush clearance. The actual ploughing hours were thus only 46,162 and the actual output 40,363 acres.

(d) The first instalment of tractors was received in Bombay towards the end of October, 1949 and the last in September, 1950. They were despatched from Bombay in the period November, 1949 to October, 1950 to Bairagarh (Bhopal) or the sites of operations. The main reasons for the delay at Bombay were the difficulties in getting railway cranes and special type wagons.

(e) 42 root rakes were purchased from the U.K. No bulldozers were purchased from U.K., but 29 have been purchased from U.S.A.

(f) The equipment has been used for bush clearance, stumping and root-raking in *Kans* infested areas, and also for jungle clearance operations in U.P., for which 30 tractors have been separately earmarked.

(g) No heavy-duty deep-tillage cultivators were despatched from Bombay to the Central Tractor Organisation. If the reference is to Pashabhai pan breakers, they have all been received.

PEDIGREE BULLS AND BUFFALOES

154. Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the various types of pedigree bulls and buffaloes in India?

(b) Have any cross-breeding tests been performed at any of the Veterinary Research Institutes and if so, with what results?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement giving the names of various types of pedigree bulls and buffaloes in India is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 31.]

(b) No, if by cross breeding the hon. Member means breeding of Indian cows with foreign bulls. A certain amount of this cross breeding has, however, been attempted at Military Dairy Farms in India during the last half century. The results show that while it is a short cut to increased milk production, it has its own defects. It is found that with increased proportion of foreign blood the animals become very susceptible to diseases. Secondly cross-bred animals cannot function unless management and disease control of a very high order are available.

No cross breeding amongst Indian Breeds has been done at any Research Institute. Grading up of local inferior cattle in backward areas is, however, done as a routine measure in villages possessing bulls of well defined breeds.

Khandsari SUGAR

155. Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the States where *Khandsari* sugar is manufactured?

(b) What is the duty levied on such sugar in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(c) What are the reasons for not raising the duty on *Khandsari* sugar proportionate to the tax on sugar?

(d) What is the total quantity of *Khandsari* sugar produced in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Mostly Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Re. 0-8-0 per cwt.

(c) So that manufacturers of *Khandsari* sugar using power may not switch over to manually operated *Khandsari* factories which are exempted from the levy of excise duty.

(d) Total quantity of *khandsari* sugar produced in the year 1949-50 is roughly estimated to be 175,000 tons. Accurate figures are not available. No estimate can yet be made of the production in the 1950-51 season.

SALE OF EXCESS PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

156. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar factories would be allowed to sell in the free market their excess production over the basic quota fixed in this respect by Government for each factory;

(b) whether all factories have completed cane crushing operations for the seasons, if not, how many have completed, how many will complete in March and how many in April, 1951;

(c) whether the basic quota has been fixed for each factory, if so, on what basis; and

(d) whether ten lakh tons of Government's share has been already produced for the purpose of rationed distribution and if not, what is the total quantity produced up to 11th March 1951?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) No. Out of 138 sugar factories working in the season 30 factories are reported to have closed down by 20th March, 1951. It is not possible to say how many more will close in March or how many will continue in April.

(c) A copy of the Press Note issued by Government on the subject is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 32.]

(d) Yes.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 23th March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS

*2574. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state the total amount spent in connection with the various river Valley projects in hand in India which are being done by the Central Government or under their auspices, and the progress of each so far?

(b) By which time is each of the said projects likely to be completed and what is the estimated amount to be spent thereon up to the stage of completion?

(c) What benefit is each of them likely to confer by way of irrigational facilities and generation of hydro-electric power?

(d) What technical personnel has been imported from outside the country in connection with these projects?

(e) Is such staff on temporary or permanent basis?

(f) What is the amount of annual expenditure incurred on such technical personnel?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) to (f). Four statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 33.]

With your permission, Sir, I should like to add that in Statement IV the last item is left blank just mentioning '2 foremen'. Their names are not given. They are Messrs. E. R. Lebre and G. R. Zorzi. By nationality, the list consists

of 9 Americans, one German, one Hungarian and 2 Italians. At the present moment, there are only 2 Americans, one Hungarian and two Italians with us. The others have all gone back.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know in how many projects the original estimates were revised and what has been the extent of increase in the revised expenditure?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The statement that I have laid on the Table of the House gives as much information as is available at the present moment. I have not got all the revised figures.

Shri Chaliha: May I know if there is any saving in the revised estimates?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Hardly likely. All estimates happen to go up.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know what are the river valley projects which are under execution now?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The statements contain all the information that the hon. Member wants. It is a long list. If you so direct, Sir, I shall read it.

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Sidhva: May I know when the D. V. C. is likely to be started?

Mr. Speaker: I think these questions about river valley projects have been put and answered so many times.

Shri Sidhva: But this question was never answered.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

SMUGGLING OF GOLD

*2576. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the various routes by which contraband gold has been smuggled into India during the year 1950-51; and

(b) the total number of Indians and foreigners involved and arrested in the smuggling?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) A statement pertaining to the period 1st April 1950 to 31st December 1950 is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 34.]

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when complete.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what other punishment in addition to confiscation of the smuggled gold is meted out to the smugglers?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The import into India of any gold is restricted under Section 8(1) of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act and under Section 8(3) thereof any importation made in contravention of the provisions of Section 8(1) is regarded as infringing the provisions of Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, attracting thereby the penal provisions of Section 167(8) of the latter Act. In addition to confiscation of the gold, in appropriate cases the Reserve Bank can also launch a prosecution under Section 23 of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any separate account is available in the Ministry of the gold which has been smuggled from the French and Portuguese Settlements in India?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: An account can only be maintained of the gold which has been caught while it is being smuggled and has been seized.

Dr. M. M. Das: I also mean the same thing. About undetected gold nobody can say: I know that.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We do have an account. But I am sorry I do not have it here.

Shri Rathanaswamy: Is it a fact that this art of smuggling gold into India has attracted even foreign diplomats and if so, how many diplomats and ex-diplomats are involved in the smuggling of gold into India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Dwivedi: Are there some cases of smuggling of gold from Pakistan to India and if so, what is the amount of gold so smuggled?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am afraid that cannot be answered. If he means gold smuggled and cases detected, I believe there have been a few cases, but they are not very common—and not as common as the smuggling of gold into India from foreign countries.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know under what head this smuggled gold and its value are appropriated in the Indian Exchequer?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think it is included as credits under the head Currency. If it is below standard, then it is sold in the market and the proceeds are credited to Miscellaneous Receipts, but if it is standard or above standard it is sent to the Mint and is part of the receipts under Currency.

CULTURAL RELATIONS COUNCIL

***2577. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the expenditure incurred uptil now for the Cultural Relations Council?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): انڈین کونسل فور کلچرل ریلیشنس کے کاموں پر اس وقت تک ایک لاکھ چوبیس ہزار ایک سو سڑسٹھ روپیہ خرچہ ہوا ہے -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): The expenditure incurred for the Indian Council for Cultural Relations uptil now is Rs. 1,24,167.]

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the amount spent during the current year and the amount for which provision has been made for the next year for this Council?

مولانا آزاد: ان دونوں رقموں کو الگ کر کے میں ابھی نہیں بتلا سکتا -

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give separate figures for these two items.]

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the purposes for which this Council was formed and the work done by this Council up to date?

مولانا آزاد: کونسل نے بہت سے کام اپنے سامنے رکھے ہیں - کچھ شروع کر دئے ہیں ، کچھ شروع ہو رہے ہیں - ایک کام اس نے یہ کیا ہے باہر کے جن ملکوں میں ابھی تک سنسکرت زبان کی تعلیم کا کوئی انتظام نہیں ہوا ہے ، وہاں کی یونیورسٹیوں میں سنسکرت کی چیر قائم کرنا اور اسکے لئے پروفیسر بھیم پہنچانا - چنانچہ تہران

یونیورسٹی میں وہ پچھلے برس ایک پروفیسر بھیج چکی ہے - وہ وہاں کام کر رہا ہے اور اس کا کام عام طور پر پسند کیا گیا ہے - سنسکرت کی ایک لائبریری بھی وہاں کھولی جا رہی ہے اور اس میں بھی کونسل ان کی مدد کر رہی ہے - اس کے علاوہ مڈل ایسٹ کے لئے ایک کوارٹرلی عربی میگزین اور ایک انگلش اور پرشین میگزین نکالا گیا ہے جو ان ملکوں میں بہت مقبول ہوا ہے - اس کے علاوہ کونسل نے خود اپنی ایک لائبریری بھی قائم کر لی ہے ، اس کو ترقی دے رہی ہے - کونسل کوشش کر رہی ہے کہ ساوتھ ایسٹ ایشیا کا سیکشن بھی کھول دیا جائے -

[Maulana Azad: The Council has prepared many schemes, some of them have already been undertaken and some are being undertaken. One of the tasks undertaken by it is to make arrangements for the teaching of Sanskrit in such universities of foreign countries where no arrangements for Sanskrit studies already exist and to send Professors of Sanskrit there. In pursuance of that Scheme last year we sent a professor to Tehran University, who is teaching Sanskrit there, and his work has generally been appreciated. A Sanskrit Library is also being opened there. In this matter too the Council is helping them. Besides this a quarterly magazine in Arabic language and another in Persian and English is being published for the Middle East countries and this has been very much liked in those countries. Apart from this, the Council has set up a Library of its own and is extending it. The Council is also contemplating to start a South East Asia section.]

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether an Indian Dance Party was sent to Egypt by this Council on the occasion of the India Festival in Cairo and the whole expense was borne by this Council?

مولانا آزاد: ہاں - پارٹی بھیجی گئی تھی جسکے خرچ کا ایک حصہ ایجپٹ کی گورنمنٹ نے دیا تھا اور ایک حصہ انڈین کونسل نے -

[Maulana Azad: Yes, such a party was sent. A part of the expenditure was borne by the Government of Egypt and a part by the Council itself.]

श्री के० सी० शर्मा : क्या वज़ीर साहब यह बतलायेंगे कि इस ने हिन्दुस्तानी तम्मुदन और तहज़ीब पर कितनी किताबें लिखी हैं ?

[Shri K. C. Sharma: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how many books, the Council has arranged to be written on Indian Culture and Civilization?]

مولانا آزاد : میرے آنریبل دوست کو معلوم ہونا چاہئے کہ اس کونسل کا کام شروع ہوئے ابھی صرف تیرہ برس ہوا ہے اور تیرہ برس کے اندر اس سے یہ امید نہیں کی جا سکتی کہ وہ ہر طرح کے کام انجام دیدیگی -

[Maulana Azad: My hon. friend must know that this Council was set up only one and half years ago. The Council cannot be expected to perform every sort of work within this short period of one and half years.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Has this Council established any cultural contacts with the Buddhist countries of South East Asia?

مولانا آزاد : میں نے ابھی کہا کہ کونسل اب بہت جلد ساوتھ ایسٹ ایشیا کا سیکشن کھولنا چاہتی ہے - اس سیکشن کا مقصد یہ ہوگا کہ ایشیا کے اس حصہ کے بودھسٹ ملکوں سے کلچرل تعلقات بڑھائے -

[Maulana Azad: I have just now stated that the Council is contemplating to open a South East Asia Section very soon. The object of this Section would be to develop cultural relations with the Buddhist countries of this part of Asia.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it an autonomous body or a Department of the Government?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں یہ گورنمنٹ کا ڈیپارٹمنٹ نہیں ہے- یہ ایک انڈیپنڈنٹ باڈی ہے - گورنمنٹ اس کو گرانٹ دیتی ہے -

[**Maulana Azad:** No. It is not a Government Department. It is altogether an independent body. The Government gives grant to it.]

Dr. M. M. Das: In relation to the Indian Dance Party sent to Cairo, may I know the amount of expenditure that was incurred?

مولانا آزاد : ٹھیک رقم تو میں ابھی نہیں بتلا سکتا - لیکن میرا خیال ہے کہ دس سے پندرہ ہزار روپیہ کے اندر خرچ ہوا ہوگا -

[**Maulana Azad:** I cannot mention the exact amount at present. But I think the expenditure incurred would be between ten to fifteen thousands of rupees.]

PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

*2578. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state what work is being done by the Psychological Research Organisation created by the Ministry of Defence and what does that cost the Government per year?

(b) How many Psychologists are working under this scheme?

(c) Are they all Indians?

(d) How many commissioned officers have been recruited under the advice of these specialists?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) (i) The main duty of the Psychological Research Organisation is to review continuously the working of the Selection Boards in order to ensure that the tests applied to the candidates are sound and their interpretation is in accordance with the findings of Psychological Research. It is responsible for the training of personnel employed on the selection work in the three Services. There are various other problems which it can and is, in fact, investigating.

(ii) The cost is roughly Rs. 1½ lakhs per year.

(b) Six.

(c) Yes.

(d) Since this Organisation was set up, 8,137 candidates have been tested by the Selection Boards of whom 2,118 have been finally selected. It is not correct to say that the selection has been made only on the advice of the specialists in the Psychological Research Organisation. The selection of officers is made on the combined results of a written examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission and the tests applied by the Selection Boards. The Selection Boards, again, consist partly of Psychologists and partly of Service Officers. It is obvious, therefore, that all relevant factors are taken into consideration at the time of selection.

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, Sir, whether there is any arrangement to verify whether the qualities that are assessed at the time of selection are really present in the candidates?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The Selection Board is there to assess the qualities.

Mr. Speaker: The question is what principle the Selection Boards adopt to find out what they are expected to find out.

Major-General Himatsinhji: May I state the history of the Selection Boards to give the reasons why we adopted this system?

Mr. Speaker: That does not appear to be necessary.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is there any process by which it is found out afterwards whether the qualities on the basis of which the selection was made are really present in the candidates?

Major-General Himatsinhji: One important test which can be applied in this case is the percentage of rejection of selected candidates during the course of training after selection. By adoption of this method the percentage of wastage has been reduced, as the following will show.

Before the scientific selection procedure was adopted in 1943, the wastage was 39·8 per cent. In the latter part of 1943 (September to December) it was 34·9 per cent. Since we adopted this method, the wastage in respect of Emergency Commissions was 22·3 per cent. in 1944, 14·4 per cent. in 1945 and it was 8·8 per cent. in 1946 (January to September).

As regards Regular Commissions, during the first course in December 1946, the wastage was 11·02 per cent. In 1947 (2nd course) it was 7·96 per cent.; in 1948—6·47 per cent.; in 1949—6·6 per cent. and in 1950—7·8 per cent. In the latter part of 1950, which is the last result, it was 4·1 per cent.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: Are these candidates kept under observation, before they are selected, with a view to finding out whether the qualities are present in them?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. We have a scheme by which the candidates are kept under observation. We also try to keep under observation those candidates who fail to come through the selection, but it is a difficult problem to find out where and how they are employed.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is there any course of training of these selection methods?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. We have a section—the Psychological Research Section—consisting of Dr. Sonan Lal, who is the Chief Psychologist, and five other qualified officers. They train the officers who are put on the selection boards from time to time and they also check their efficiency to see that they maintain up-to-date standards.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, if there are any cases in which the psychological tests have been found inappropriate or unsatisfactory?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Sir, it would be wrong for us to claim that the Psychological Research Organisation or the Selection Boards do not make occasional mistakes. In fact, no human selection machinery could claim to be infalliable. It can, however, be claimed with justification that the number of mistakes likely to be made after the application of the psychological method is less.

Mr. Speaker: I think this question was dealt with by the hon. Home Minister on an earlier occasion.

Dr. Deshmukh: Similar question does not necessarily mean similar supplementaries; there are various aspects to the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Pandit Kunzru: Is it a fact, Sir, that the present method, whatever its defects, is regarded, not merely by the military authorities but by the candidates themselves, as fairer than the previous test which was limited to an interview lasting for about ten or fifteen minutes?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. It is testified to by the figures of wastage I have read out.

SCIENTIFIC MAN-POWER COMMITTEE

*2579. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state how many stipends and of what amounts have been provided for in pursuance of the recommendation of the Scientific Manpower Committee?

(b) What institutions have been allotted these stipends?

(c) How many stipendiaries have started working under this scheme and in what establishments and subjects?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : (اے) - سنہ ۱۹۴۹ سے سنہ ۱۹۵۱ تک ۴۲۵ سینیر اور ۳۰۰ جونیر اسٹائیپنڈس دئے گئے - سینیر اسٹائی پینڈ انجنیرنگ اور ٹکنولوجی کے گریجوئٹس کو پریکٹکل ٹریننگ کے لئے دیا گیا ، اور جونیر اسٹائی پینڈ ڈپلوما رکھنے والوں کو— سینیر اسٹائپنڈ ۱۵۰ روپیے ماہوار کا تھا اور جونیر ۷۵ روپیے مہینے کا—دونوں کےلئے مدت دو برس کی رکھی گئی ہے-

(بی)- ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاؤس کی ٹیبل پر رکھ دیا گیا ہے -

[*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 35.]

(سی) ۱ تا ۲ - ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاؤس کی ٹیبل پر رکھ دیا گیا ہے جس سے ساری باتیں معلوم ہو جائینگی -

[*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 36.]

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) During the years 1949-51, 425 Senior Stipends of the value of Rs. 150 per mensem have been instituted for the post collegiate practical training of graduates in Engineering and Technology and 300 Junior stipends of the value of Rs. 75 per mensem have been instituted for the Diploma holders. The stipends are tenable for a period of two years.

(b) A statement giving the names of educational institutions and the number of stipends allotted to each of the institutions and utilised by them is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 35.)

(c) 521 Stipendiaries have started training in the various establishments. A statement giving subjects of study of the stipendiaries and the establishments where they are at present undergoing training is placed on the Table of the House. (*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 36).

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : क्या हमारे विश्व विद्यालयों, युनीवरसिटियों में कोई इस का प्रबन्ध है कि इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग दी जाये ?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are there any arrangements in our colleges and universities to impart such training?]

مولانا آزاد : پریکٹیکل ٹریننگ کا انتظام یونیورسٹیوں میں بہت کم ہے - اسی لئے یہ مدد ودیارتھیوں کو دی گئی ہے کہ وہ ایسی جگہوں میں دو برس تک کام کریں جہاں پریکٹیکل ٹریننگ مل سکتی ہے -

[Maulana Azad: In the universities there is meagre arrangement for the practical training. This is why such help has been given to students, so that they may undergo training for two years in such institutions where the arrangements for such technical training exist.]

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : क्या इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग का प्रबन्ध केवल हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर ही है, या बाहर भी भेजने का प्रबन्ध है ?

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are these arrangements for imparting such training confined to India alone or arrangements have been made to send the trainees abroad also for this purpose?]

مولانا آزاد : ابھی تو یہ صرف ہندوستان کے اندر ہی دیا گیا ہے -

[Maulana Azad: No, Sir, so far the arrangements for imparting such training have been made in India only.]

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, what percentage of the personnel who have been listed in the Scientific Man-Power Committee list have been found employment or considered?

مولانا آزاد : ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاوس کی ٹیبل پر رکھ دیا گیا ہے - گو آنریبل ممبر اس کو دیکھنے کی تکلیف گوارا کرینگے تو ان کو پوری تفصیل کے ساتھ جواب مل جایگا -

[Maulana Azad: A Statement has been placed on the Table of the House. If the hon. Member will take the trouble to study it he will know the details in full.]

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : क्या कुछ मदद हिन्दू युनिवरसिटी के इंजीनियरिंग क्लास को इस सम्बन्ध में दी जाती है ?

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is any aid being given to the Engineering Department of the Hindu University for this purpose?]

مولانا آزاد : یہ مدد ودیارتھیوں کو دی گئی ہے یونیورسٹیوں کو نہیں دی گئی ہے - اسٹیٹمنٹ کے دیکھنے سے یہ بات معلوم کر لی جا سکتی ہے کہ ہندو یونیورسٹیوں کے ودیارتھیوں کو مدد ملی یا نہیں ؟

[Maulana Azad: This help has been given to the Students and not to the universities. This can be verified from the Statement whether any help has been given to the students of the Hindu University or not.]

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : मैं केवल बनारस हिन्दू युनीवरसिटी के सम्बन्ध में जानना चाहता हूं ?

[Pandit Munishawar Datt Upadhyay: I only want to know about the Hindu University?]

مولانا آزاد : ہاں - ہندو یونیورسٹی کے ودیارتھیوں کو بھی مدد دی گئی ہے -

[Maulana Azad: Yes. Help has been given to the students of the Hindu University also.]

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : कितनी ?

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How much?]

مولانا آزاد : تعداد میں نہیں بتلا سکتا - اسٹیٹمنٹ سے آپکو سارا حال معلوم ہو جایگا -

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give the figures. You will know every detail from the Statement.]

LAND REQUISITIONED NEAR PANAGARH

***2580. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of land requisitioned at and near about Panagarh in West Bengal;

(b) the terms and conditions of such requisitioning;

(c) how the land is now utilised and whether any portion has been given back to the old tenants; and

(d) whether any portion has been leased to any outsider—*i.e.* one not amongst the evicted tenants?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) to (c). 2677·13 acres of land were requisitioned. 2210·35 acres have been derequisitioned leaving 466·78 acres still on requisition. A recurring compensation of Rs. 8970 is paid on the area under requisition. The area is used for the purpose of the Panagarh Ordnance and Engineer Stores Depots.

(d) Yes. A portion of the acquired area was leased out by auction for agricultural purposes to the highest bidder.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what are the terms for requisitioning? Was it a condition that the lands were to be restored to the original tenants within six months after the cessation of war?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. Originally the land was requisitioned during the war and at that time it was intended to be for the duration of the war and six months thereafter.

Shri A. C. Guha: What are the number of villages and the number of people involved?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I want notice of the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: A portion of the land was leased out to an outsider. Why could it not have been given to the local tenants, those who have been ousted from the land?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Of the surplus area 482 acres have been let out for agricultural purposes by auction to the highest bidder who is not one of the evicted tenants. It has since been decided to give preference to the bids of the former tenants if they are above the reserve bid.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any notice issued in the papers for that auction?

Mr. Speaker: I think we are going too much into the details.

CONTINGENT FUND

***2581. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amounts under different main heads which have been spent from the contingent fund of 15 crores during the year 1950?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री सी० डी० देशमुख): आकस्मिकता निधि से अग्रिम धन अभी तक नहीं दिया गया है, कारण निधि के स्थापन के पश्चात् भारतीय संसद के अधिवेशन अनेक बार हुए व अनुपूरक अनुदानों की बहुतायत से एवं विध आवश्यकता उपस्थित नहीं हुई ।

[The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No advances have so far been made from the Contingency Fund, the reason being that the Session of the Parliament was held several times after the setting up of the Contingency Fund and on account of the adequacy of supplementary grants no legal necessity arose.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या मैं अर्थ मंत्री जी से यह जान सकता हूं कि इस कोश के धन को विभिन्न भागों में व्यय करने के सम्बन्ध में क्या नीति है ? क्या भिन्न भिन्न सचिवालयों की सिफ़ारिश पर विचार किया जायेगा या अर्थ मंत्री और अर्थ मंत्री जी का सचिवालय ही इस सम्बन्ध में निर्णय करेंगे ?

[Seth Govind Das: May I know from the Minister of Finance the policy regarding the spending of money out of this Contingency Fund on the various Departments? Will the recommendations of various Ministries be taken into consideration or will the Minister of Finance and his Ministry alone decide this matter?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : निधि से सम्बन्ध रखने वाले विषय या ऐसे

विषय जैसे कि निधि का संरक्षण अथवा उस के आय व व्यय के लिए नियमावली संकलित की जा रही है।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Rules and regulations for matters pertaining to that Fund or other matters relating to it such as the preservation of the Fund and the income and expenditure of the Fund are being framed.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जो नियमावली संकलित की जा रही है क्या वह नियमावली भिन्न भिन्न सचिवालयों के पास विचार के लिए भेजी जायेगी। या इस सम्बन्ध को नियमावली को अर्थ सचिवालय ही तैयार करेगा, और यह नियमावली कब तक तैयार हो जायगी ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Will the rules and regulations which are being framed be sent to the various Ministries for their consideration or will the Finance Ministry alone frame these rules and regulations and by what time these will be ready?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : अर्थ सचिवालय से ही इस नियमावली पर निर्णय हो जायेगा।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The rules and regulations will be finalized by the Finance Ministry alone.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कब तक हो जायेगा ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** How long will it take to finalize them?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : आशा है कि उस में अधिक समय नहीं लगेगा।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It is expected that it will not take much time.]

IRON

*2582. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been new finds of iron;

(b) if so, at what places and in what quantity; and

(c) what steps are being taken to explore them?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) to (c). The Geological Survey of India report that strictly speaking there have been no new finds of iron-ore in the States comprising the Union of India during the last five years.

The occurrences of iron-ore deposits in Rowghat, Bastar District, Madhya Pradesh; Pipalgaon, Chanda District, Madhya Pradesh; and in the former Sandur State, now a part of Bellary District, Madras, which were known already, but vaguely, without any idea of the quality and quantities present, and therefore without any idea of the possible utility of these deposits to industry, have, however, been surveyed and the work done has produced systematic and detailed data which picks out these deposits as deposits of industrial and economic importance.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want to know whether Government have got any rules in regard to the exploitation of these possible iron mines and deposits by private enterprise *vis-a-vis* efforts made by the Geological Survey itself and State enterprise.

Shri Sri Prakasa: As I have said in answer to similar questions in the past, it is the business of the State Governments to exploit these resources. We only explore them on behalf of the Centre and put such knowledge as we can garner at the disposal of the States.

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार ने कोई अनुसंधान विन्ध्य प्रदेश के बिजावर तहसील में भी किया है या करने का विचार है जहां लोहा पाया जाता है ?

[**Shri Dwivedi:** I want to know whether the Government have made any survey or intends to do so, of the Bijawar Tehsil of Vindhya Pradesh where iron ore is found?]

Mr. Speaker: I think he put that question a few days back.

Shri Dwivedi: Regarding Bijawar I did not.

Mr. Speaker: It is some other thing now. But the question about Vindhya Pradesh was put.

श्री श्री प्रकाश : अभी तक तो उधर अनुसंधान करने का विचार नहीं हुआ है परन्तु यदि माननीय सदस्य उस सम्बन्ध में कुछ जानकारी रखते हैं और अगर वह

मुझे वह पूरी स्थिति बतलावेंगे तो अवश्य उधर भी विचार किया जायेगा।

[**Shri Sri Prakasa:** It has not yet been decided to carry out survey in that region, but if the hon. Member were to give me the full details the matter will certainly be considered.]

Dr. Deshmukh: Looking to the importance of the exploitation of iron-ore, may I know if the hon. Minister knows by what time the mines discovered and found possible in Madhya Pradesh are likely to begin working?

Shri Sri Prakasa: All that I can say is this that I shall send to the Government of Madhya Pradesh a copy of these question and the answer.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know what the iron-ore content of these new discoveries is?

Shri Sri Prakasa: In Orissa, in the district of Gangapur, in Bonai, the estimate is 5,775,000 tons. At another place it is 4,620,000 tons. Still at another place it is 67,500,000 tons. In Madhya Pradesh, in Bastar district, in Rowghat we expect 800,000,000 tons. It is a long list.

Mr. Speaker: He is giving the quantities of ore. What the hon. Member wants is the percentage of iron to the ore. That is what he wants.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Sir, I have not got that information ready at hand.

DELEGATIONS SENT ABROAD

*2583. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Government delegations sent abroad in the year 1949-50;

(b) the expenses incurred on each of these delegations during this period; and

(c) the purposes of these delegations?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 37.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, I have only just now received these big eight sheets and it is not possible for me to go through these things before I can put any question. I would like to suggest that these statements may be sent to our houses along with other parliamentary papers.

Mr. Speaker: About this there has been a discussion more than once in the House and it has been settled that a list of the answers to which statements are being attached will be at the Notice Office, I believe, about half an hour or twenty minutes—whatever it is—before the question hour starts, and any Member tabling a question and caring to know something about the replies should get at a copy of the statement. It is not possible to send it to the houses of Members.

I may suggest one thing. If he has no time to read it now, it is better that he reads it, studies it and digests it and then table any questions rather than put questions now which may not be to the point at all.

Shri A. C. Guha: There are 115 delegations for which they have given the breakup in this statement. May I know the total expenditure incurred?

Shri Tyagi: The total expenditure incurred on these 115 delegations is to the tune of Rs. 11,31,000.

Shri A. C. Guha: One of the items in the list is that one Indian Delegation went to attend the 32nd session of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva and it cost Rs. 1,08,000. Of course, the purpose is obvious, but no special mention is made.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is audibly studying the thing. It is no use putting questions.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there are cases where the delegations who went abroad stayed there longer for their own purposes and that expenditure was met by the Exchequer here?

Shri Tyagi: No such case has been brought to the notice of this Ministry yet.

Shri Rathnaswamy: In the selection of the personnel for various delegations sent to foreign countries, what is the principle followed in choosing the personnel for these delegations?

Mr. Speaker: I think this was explained by the Prime Minister some time back.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has the hon. Minister discovered any cases of officers who have stayed longer outside India than inside India out of these delegations?

Shri Tyagi: If the hon. Member has any information, I will take steps.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was the hon. Minister satisfied that the purposes for which these delegations were sent could not have been realized in a fairly satisfactory way by our embassies, legations or trade commissioners in those countries?

Shri Tyagi: My hon. friend has brought to notice one delegation which cost Rs. 1,08,000. That is the highest expenditure on one Delegation. I would invite the attention of my hon. friend to another item where the expenditure was Rs. 85 and which was the lowest.

Mr. Speaker: His point is entirely different. Was it really necessary to send out all these delegations and whether the work could not be done by embassies.

Shri Tyagi: I have given an instance where a delegation cost only Rs. 85, that delegation was not from here but from the embassy.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I would like to add that each case of delegation is considered first by the Finance Ministry and the Finance Minister himself or the Minister of State and then the concurrence of the Prime Minister is required. After that the case goes before the Cabinet. So, if any objection is to be raised or any question is to be asked as to whether this particular purpose can be discharged by personnel outside, I say that it is always very carefully gone into and this result, therefore, represents the result of a very thorough scrutiny of all these proposals.

ADULTERATION IN FLOUR

*2584. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that adulteration is going on in flour in Delhi and some other States specially big towns and that the flour of white *jowar* is mixed up with that of wheat flour; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken by Government to stop this?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). From the information received from the State Governments except Bombay from whom no reply has yet been received it appears that no adulteration in flour is going on in any State except in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh where action against offenders is taken under the existing laws in force.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if it has come to the notice of hon. Minister for Health that recently in Baroda State some very inferior flour was given in ration and that could not be eaten?

Mr. Speaker: It refers first to adulteration.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have had no information about Baroda.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Has the hon. Minister received any complaints with regard to adulteration in Delhi?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No. I enquired about whether white *jowar* was being mixed in Delhi and the reply was in the negative. No adulteration is going on here.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What are the materials which are adulterated with flour in Rajasthan?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: In Rajasthan soap stone powder has been found mixed with flour and also foodgrains which have deteriorated in quality. This is rather serious and they have taken such action as is necessary.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that *sooji* is mixed with sugar in the Delhi State?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not think that question arises from this.

PAY GRADES OF TEACHERS

*2585. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the pay grades of Indian and foreign teachers vary in Lawrence School at Sanawar and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): نہیں اس طرح کا کوئی فرق سناور اسکول کی تنخواہوں میں نہیں رکھا گیا ہے۔

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): No, Sir. There is no discrimination in the prescribed scales of pay of teachers on grounds of nationality in the Lawrence School at Sanawar.]

HINDI (PROPAGATION)

*2586. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India intend to set up an All-India organization for the propagation of Hindi?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): پارلیامنٹ کی اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی نے اپنی میٹنگ میں جو ۲۰ دسمبر ۵۰ میں ہوئی تھی یہ سفارش کی ہے کہ ہندی کے پرچار کے لئے ایک آل انڈیا آرگینائزیشن قائم کیا جائے جس کا دفتر سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کے ہیڈکوارٹر

میں ہو - گورنمنٹ اس تجویز پر غور کر رہی ہے -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): The Standing Committee of Parliament on Education has in its meeting on the 20th December, 1950 recommended among other things, the establishment of a permanent all-India organisation at the headquarters of the Central Government to organise and supervise work in connection with propagation of Hindi. This recommendation is under consideration.]

डा० राम सुभाग सिंह : हिन्दी के प्रचार के के लिए कायम किए जाने वाले उस आल इंडिया आरगेनाइजेशन के कितने सदस्य होंगे और उसका हिन्दी में क्या नाम होगा।

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the number of members of the All India Organisation which is to be set up for the propagation of Hindi and what will be its name in Hindi?]

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know what is the number of persons who are to be Members of the Hindi Academy.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: And what will be its name in Hindi?

مولانا آزاد: میں ابھی یہ نہیں بتلا سکتا کیونکہ تجویز پر غور کیا جا رہا ہے -

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give this information at this time as the proposal is under consideration.]

डा० राम सुभाग सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि इस समिति की रचना करने के लिए सरकार हिन्दी से प्रमुख विद्वानों की एक सभा करने जा रही है

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the Government are proposing to convene a meeting of well known scholars of Hindi to set up this Committee?]

مولانا آزاد: آ اس پر گورنمنٹ غور کر رہی ہے - اگر گورنمنٹ نے اس کی ضرورت سمجھی تو وہ ضرور ایسا کریگی -

[Maulana Azad: The Government are considering this proposal and if they deem it necessary to do so they will certainly undertake that.]

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई : क्या मैं गवर्नमेंट से यह जान सकती हूं कि उनको यह बात मालूम है कि इस देश में बहुत सी ऐसी संस्थायें हैं जिन्होंने हिन्दी प्रचार का काम अपने हाथ में लिया था लेकिन धन के अभाव की वजह से वह उसको पूरा नहीं कर सकीं।

[Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that there are many such organizations in the country that undertook the work of propagating Hindi, but they could not succeed in doing so due to lack of funds?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. She is making out a case.

प्रो०,ऐस० ऐन० मिश्र : क्या यह सच है कि इस समिति में माननीय अर्थ मंत्री को अध्यक्ष बनाने की कोशिश हो रही है।

[Prof. S. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that efforts are being made to appoint the hon. Minister of Finance as the Chairman of this Committee?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order I think I will go to the next question.

OFFICE OF DEPUTY ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

*2587. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether a portion of the office of the Deputy Accountant General, under the Indian Audit Department was shifted to Kapurthala in 1950?

(b) Have suitable and large enough buildings for the office and residences for the staff been made available to the Department?

(c) What has been the total cost of the move of the office including (i) T. A. of the Officers for initial survey both of the P. W. D. and the Audit Department; (ii) repairs of buildings for office and residences purposes; and (iii) other expenses, recurring and non-recurring, in the shape of Bonus, T. A. and additional staff required, as also by way of freight in removing furniture and records?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) A portion of the office of the Deputy Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs shifted to Kapurthala in 1950.

(b) Suitable buildings for the office have been made available to the Department. Residential accommodation for about 70 per cent. of the staff there has also been provided. More houses are under repair for allotment to the rest of the staff.

(c) Rs. 3·36 lakhs.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what steps have been taken to move the other establishment that is intended to be moved in connection with this office?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am afraid I cannot answer that question without notice.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what percentage of the whole establishment has been moved and what percentage still remains to be shifted?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: On that too, I have no information.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any refugees have been displaced by these offices being shifted to Kapurthala?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The houses that have been allotted belong as under: 87 evacuee houses; residential accommodation for six superintendents and 10 clerks has been found in the Nithal Palace; some residential accommodation in Baggi Khana, in the Ball Room and Darbar Hall, etc. I do not think any of these belong to the refugees.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any difficulties in moving the remaining establishment to this place?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: My information is that this problem of finding accommodation for the rest is likely to be solved.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know the amounts which will be paid either to the P.E.P.S.U. Government or the Kapurthala Prince by way of rent?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I must have notice of this question.

GRANTS TO STATES

*2588. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount of statutory grants, including *ad hoc* grants and loans that were actually given to the different States for financing their development projects during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) Which were the States which received the above grants?

(c) Did the States spend the amounts in full for the purposes for which the grants etc., were given?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). 3 statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 38].

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Out of the loans granted to the State Governments during 1949, what part has been paid back?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I must have notice of that.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know for what purposes the grant given to the Assam Government in respect of Tribal Areas has been spent?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: If the question is, how the Assam Government has spent this sum, I am afraid, except for general purposes, we are not in a position to answer.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether any analysis has been made by Government that as a result of the stoppage or reduction of these grants or loans, projects in the various States are likely to become a total loss?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No such cases have been pointedly brought to our notice. It is possible that in some cases some small amount that has been spent will have been lost if the work cannot be continued.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही है कि कुछ प्रदेशों को भारत सरकार ने कर्ज के रूप में और ग्रांट के रूप में रुपया देना स्वीकार किया था और उन प्रदेशों को वह रुपया नहीं मिला जिसके कारण उनके आगे जो होने वाले काम थे वह रुक गये।

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that the Government of India had agreed to give financial help to some States by way of loans and grants and those States have not received that amount as a result of which their future plans were held up?]

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : सम्भव है कि ऐसा हुआ हो।

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It is just possible that it might have been so.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any representation has been received from the Government of Bihar for grant of more sums than have been sanctioned this year?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have received a great many representations. I cannot say here offhand whether any representation has been received from the Bihar Government. It is very likely.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know whether, before the State Governments obtained the grants or loans, they submitted their post-war development plans to the Central Government and the Central Government concurred in them?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Whenever a loan is asked for, it is asked for for a particular purpose. If the point of the question is whether the whole range of development plans was submitted and approved, and the grant was asked for the completion of such plans, then, the answer is 'No'.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether it is a fact that both in 1950-51 and 1951-52, no grant or loan has been sanctioned to the Rajasthan State?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think the information will be in the Budget papers. I cannot, again, give an answer offhand as to whether any grant has been sanctioned to Rajasthan or not.

PUBLIC DEBT

*2589. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether the U. K. Government shared any part of the public debt of India as it stood on the 15th August, 1947?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether in the settlement of accounts between the U.K. and India after the partition, any settlement was arrived at in regard to the dues and arrears of salaries, pensions and such other dues, which may not exactly be loans, but yet which were owing from one country to another?

Mr. Speaker: This question relates to public debt.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know whether in the settlement of this public debt, the valuable suggestions made in the the document drawn up in 1931 by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Bahadurji, were noted or followed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This relates to the time when Independence was granted, that is, several years ago. I am afraid I am not in a position to answer that question.

Shri T. N. Singh: My point was, there may be a public debt proper and there are certain things called State liabilities. I am referring . . .

Mr. Speaker: That is going beyond the scope of the present question.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR EUROPEANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS

*2590. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of schools, colleges and other educational institutions purely meant for Europeans and Anglo-Indians (separately) in the Centrally Administered Areas; and

(b) how many such institutions have been opened to all classes since 1947?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): (اے) پارٹ بی اور سی اسٹیٹس میں اب کوئی اسکول - کالج اور ایجوکیشنل انسٹیٹیوشن ایسا نہیں ہے جو صرف یورپینوں یا اینگلو انڈینوں کے لئے ہو - (بی) یہ سوال پیدا نہیں ہوتا -

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) There are no schools, colleges or other educational institutions in any Part C or D States which are intended exclusively for Europeans and Anglo-Indians.

(b) Does not arise.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether educational facilities to Anglo-Indians and Europeans are given in these areas?

مولانا آزاد - ہاں - کچھ ایسے انسٹیٹیوشن ہیں جن کو پہلے بھی کچھ گرانٹ دی جا رہی تھی اور اب بھی دی جا رہی ہے لیکن گرانٹ کے جنرل رولز کے مطابق خاص طور پر یورپین اور اینگلو انڈین کمیونٹی کے لئے نہیں -

[**Maulana Azad:** Yes. There are certain institutions which were formerly receiving grants according to the general rules for such grants and they are still receiving these grants.

There is no special provision for European and Anglo-Indian Schools.]

SUPERANNUATED DISPLACED GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*2591. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) how many displaced Sind and North West Frontier Province Government employees have superannuated after entering the service of the Central Government;

(b) how many displaced Sind and North West Frontier Province Government employees have died while in the service of the Central Government;

(c) whether pension or gratuity has been granted to such superannuated persons or to the dependents of those who have died while still in service;

(d) if not, why not; and

(e) what are the difficulties in the way of treating them on par with permanent Central Government employees in the matter of gratuity, pension, etc.?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). The question is about all classes of Government employees. Information is being collected and a statement will be placed on the Table of the House when full particulars are available. Reports in hand up-to-date however, show that 23 such employees superannuated and 33 died after absorption in Central Government service.

(c) and (d). No pension or, in the cases of death, gratuity was admissible in these cases on the basis of the brief service rendered under the Government of India. Superannuated displaced Government servants who had a matured claim to pension from the Pakistan Government on the basis of the service rendered prior to their arrival in India are eligible for interim relief under the scheme sanctioned recently by the Ministry of Rehabilitation which is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XIX, annexure No. 39].

(e) Pension, gratuity, etc., of displaced persons in respect of their service in the provinces now in Pakistan are payable by the Government of Pakistan. Government of India must await a settlement with the Government of Pakistan on this matter. The question whether any interim relief should be sanctioned also in the case of officers who have not matured claims to pension is under consideration.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of the answer to parts (c) and (d), that no pension or gratuity was available to those 33 persons who died, because their service was so short, may I know whether their previous service in Pakistan was taken into consideration while considering the question of their gratuity?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The position that the hon. Member should remember is that the Government of India cannot take over a financial responsibility arising in respect of government servants serving in a province, in this case, in a province which has gone over to Pakistan, and therefore the liability of Pakistan cannot be ignored. That is why difficulty arises in these cases. As I have already said in those cases where there had been matured claims, we are giving interim relief; in other cases, we are trying to see whether interim relief could be given even though there is no liability and even though it conflicts with the liability of Pakistan which we cannot afford to allow to lapse.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, my question is about the persons who have died. Will the hon. Minister enquire from the Pakistan Government about the past services of these persons and if those services are of such long duration, as to entitle them to a gratuity, will Government be prepared to consider their case?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The hon. Member does not seem to realise that long service under a Province cannot be taken into consideration for gratuity given by the Government of India.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of part (e), Sir, the hon. Minister stated that matters regarding gratuity and pension being given permanently are under the consideration of the Pakistan Government. May I know when the last contact or approach was made with the Pakistan Government in this respect and whether any reply is expected or any reminder is likely to expedite the matter?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am not in a position to give dates about the correspondence with Pakistan. Apart from the hope as to a settlement, the position is such that we cannot say Pakistan has no liability or to lead them to believe that their liability has lapsed. We have to maintain their liability intact and alive. As regards interim reliefs, we are considering their practicability in the several Departments of Government.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY, DELHI

*2592. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on for giving the Government Prefabricated Housing Factory, Delhi to some foreign firm on long-term lease;

(b) if so, what is the name of the firm;

(c) at what stage are these negotiations; and

(d) what are the terms of lease offered?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: If it is not a foreign firm, are there any Indian firms which are being considered for taking it over?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Not at the moment.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What steps are Government taking to make use of this factory now?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As I have already said, the matter is under the consideration of Government.

Shri Kamath: Is the future of this factory, with its unfortunate past, being considered by the Ministry on its own, or with the aid of an expert committee which the Minister promised to this House last month?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The matter is being considered by Government. The committee has not been appointed so far.

Shri Kamath: Is the committee going to be appointed at all?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That will depend upon what decision the Government takes.

Shri Kamath: How long will it take for the Government to arrive at a decision on this matter?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Very shortly, I hope.

Shri Kamath: Very, very.

RECOVERY OF INCOME-TAX IN SAURASHTRA

*2593. **Shri R. Khan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount of income-tax realised in Saurashtra in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) Is there any difference between the income-tax rates in the Centrally Administered Areas and in Saurashtra and if so, what?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The total income-tax collected in the Saurashtra Union for the period from 1st April, 1950, to the 31st January, 1951, is Rs. 6,57,000. As regards 1949-50, the collections were made by the Government of Saurashtra and not by the Government of India.

(b) Yes. The central rates of income-tax and super-tax are the rates prescribed by the Finance Act, 1950, and are given in the first schedule to that Act. The rates of income-tax applicable to incomes arising or accruing in the Saurashtra Union are given in the Schedule to the Part B States (Taxation Concessions) Order, 1950, a copy of which was placed on the Table of the House on the 5th December, 1950.

PUBLICITY

*2594. **Shri R. Khan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to increase the volume of Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, Marathi and Gujrathi publicity done by the Press Information Bureau?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): It is not possible at present to take steps to increase the volume of publicity material in Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, Marathi and Gujrathi owing to lack of funds.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेन्ट इस पर विचार कर रही है कि जो रुपया अभी इस मामले में अंग्रेजी पर खर्च किया जा रहा है उस का थोड़ा सा हिस्सा हिन्दी पर खर्च किया जाय और उस में से कम कर दिया जाय ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Are the Government considering the proposal of spending some amount of money on the publicity material in Hindi, out of the amount which is at present spent on English?]

श्री दिवाकर : इसका जवाब मैं ने जो कुछ कहा उस में आ जाता है।

[**Shri Diwakar:** It is covered by the reply given by me earlier.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहां माननीय मन्त्री जी ने यह कहा कि इस समय रपया खर्च

करने के लिये नहीं है, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि अंगरेजी पर जो रुपया खर्च किया जा रहा है क्या उस का एक हिस्सा हिन्दी पर खर्च नहीं किया जा सकता।

[**Seth Govind Das:** The hon. Minister has stated that there is no money for that. I want to know whether some part of the amount which is being spent for Publicity in English cannot be spent on Hindi?]

श्री दिवाकर : वह हम अभी नहीं कर सकते।

[**Shri Diwakar:** We are not in a position to do it now.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या मैं इस का कारण पूछ सकता हूं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** May I know the reason thereof?]

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion, though it is in the form of a question. He suggests that something may be taken or subtracted from one head and spent on the other.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONS

*2595. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether Public Service Commissions exist in each of the Part "C" States?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): The Constitution does not contemplate the setting up of separate Public Service Commissions for Part 'C' States. Such States are served by the Union Public Service Commission.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Sir, have Government considered any proposal to have a joint Public Service Commission for all the Part 'C' States in spite of the fact that there is no specific provision made for it under the Constitution?

Shri Rajagopalachari: If there is no provision in the Constitution and some arrangement for administrative facility is contemplated, it must differ from State to State. We have not yet considered such a proposal.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Who plays the part of the Public Service Commission in respect of the appointments in the Part 'C' States?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As I have already said, these States are served by the Union Public Service Commission.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is there any Part 'B' State without a Public Service Commission?

Shri Rajagopalachari: All Part 'B' States except Mysore have Public Service Commissions of their own. A decision has been taken to constitute a Public Service Commission for Mysore also.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, is it a fact that appointments concerning Part 'C' States are made by other States and the officers are only borrowed by the Part 'C' States?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I do not understand the question. The appointment is not made by the other States.

Mr. Speaker: His point is that officers from other States are borrowed and there are no direct recruitments.

Shri Rajagopalachari: It is true that in most cases officers are lent; but the appointment to a Part 'C' State is not made by the lending State.

Shri Dwivedi: Sir, what are the appointments which are made by the Chief Commissioner in a Part 'C' State, in addition to those made by the Service Commission?

Shri Rajagopalachari: As I have already stated, there are no Public Service Commissions in the Part 'C' States and the Union Public Service Commission assists and does the function of a Service Commission for these States. The Commissioner makes certain appointments; but if the full classification of the appointments falling within the authority of the Chief Commissioner is what is required, then I would like to have notice of the question.

Thakur Lal Singh: Sir, is it not a fact that these government servants who are sent from Part 'A' and Part 'B' States to a part 'C' State are generally those who are not wanted in those States?

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Just one question. Is there any separate cadre for the Part 'C' States for any important appointments?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Not yet. In this matter we have to remember that the Part 'C' States are scattered all over India and it is impossible to make a single cadre for them all.

INCOME-TAX APPEALS

*2596. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appeals from assessees for their income-tax for the year 1945-46 are still pending; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No record is kept of the assessment year to which appeals relate; the disposal of appeals is watched with reference to the date of institution of appeals. The number of appeals instituted before the Appellate Assistant Commissioners during 1945-46 and still remaining undisposed of is 31.

(b) Most of these appeals are kept pending because

(i) decision in connected cases on references made to High Courts or second appeals filed before the Appellate Tribunal are awaited;

(ii) formal orders for devesting of enemy firms on cessation of hostilities have yet to be passed by appropriate authorities; and

(iii) reports from Income-tax Officers on remand from the Appellate Assistant Commissioners are awaited and so forth.

Every effort is being made to expedite the clearance of old appeals to the extent possible.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY AND MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH

*2597. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the names 'The Banaras Hindu University' and 'The Muslim University, Aligarh' are allowed to be continued by Government?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): It has not been considered necessary to change the names of the Banaras Hindu University and the Aligarh Muslim University.

CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING SOCIETIES

*2598. **Shri A. Joseph:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state how many Co-operative Building Societies are operating in each of the Part C States and whether any of them belong to Labour population?

(b) What amount have the Government of India contributed for these Societies and what is the capital of the members?

(c) How many houses were constructed by these Societies in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 in these areas?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIX, annexure No. 40.]

CHEMISTS IN NEW DELHI

*2599. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some of the chemists doing business in Connaught Circus, Connaught Place etc. charge exorbitant rates for dispensing medicines on prescriptions; and

(b) whether Government have considered or propose to consider the question of fixation of a uniform rate per dose of medicine supplied on prescriptions?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No such cases have come to the notice of the Government of India.

(b) No. It is not possible to enforce a uniform rate per dose of medicine supplied on prescriptions as the cost of dispensing a prescription depends on the price and the kind and quality of the ingredients used as well as on the standard of professional service maintained by the dispensing establishment.

SURVEY OF THE JARWAS

*2600. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state how many times and when did the Department of Anthropology send parties to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to conduct a survey of the Jarwas and other backward tribes living there?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): Three parties were sent to conduct the survey—the first party in February 1948, the second in January 1949 and the third in January 1951.

REFUND OF SALT DUTIES

*2601. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Central Excise, Calcutta, issued a Circular Letter dated the 27th December 1950 asking the parties who had pre-partition claims, for refund of salt duties paid, to resubmit their bills for refund; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government have already passed orders for payment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders are being passed for payment of refund in individual cases, subject to accounts verification. and provided that the liability for payment rests on the Government of India.

RETRENCHMENT AND RE-EMPLOYMENT OF SECRETARIES

*2602. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Secretaries whose posts were retrenched, have been re-employed by Government as officers on Special Duty?

(b) If so, what is the number of such posts and in what special duties are they employed?

(c) Are these special duties new?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Three Secretaries whose posts were abolished have been re-employed temporarily as Officers on Special Duty. They are discharging the functions described below:

(1) Officer on Special Duty, Works, Production and Supply is engaged in the study of scarce raw materials in connection with the setting up of the Commodity Groups by the United States of America, United Kingdom and France. The post is not likely to continue beyond the end of April.

(2) Officer on Special Duty, Food and Agriculture deals with the Five-year Agricultural Plan which is being prepared by the Planning Commission. This post is not likely to last beyond the end of April.

(3) Officer on Special Duty, Food and Agriculture deals with the present food situation.

(c) Items (1) and (2) are new. It is difficult to classify No. (3) as new.

PALI AND SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS

*2603. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether attempts have been made at Governmental level to secure the ancient Pali and Sanskrit manuscripts of cultural and religious value from Tibet;

(b) if so, what measure of success has attended those efforts; and

(c) what manuscripts have been brought to India so far?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). Tibetan manuscripts have been collected from time to time from Western Tibet only. It is extremely difficult to come across Pali or Sanskrit manuscripts in Tibet.

(c) A list of some of the manuscripts has been published in A. H. Francke's "Antiquities of Indian Tibet" Part I, Appendix B. There is also a printed catalogue in French giving the works in the collection called *Kanjur* which have been translated into Tibetan from Sanskrit originals.

CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY

*2604. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the answer to my Supplementary Question on Starred Question No. 1940, asked on the 7th March, 1951 and state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption and bribery in Part "C" States, that were withdrawn after the prosecution had been launched; and

(b) in what circumstances they were withdrawn?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). Information is being collected in respect of Part 'C' States coming under the control of the Home Ministry and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. In respect of other Part 'C' States I would advise the hon. member to address a question to hon. Minister of States.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

*2605. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proceeded with necessary arrangements to have the General Elections in November, 1951;

(b) whether the elections to both the Centre and the States will take place simultaneously;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Madras Government have asked the Government of India to have the General Elections in Madras in December 1951 and if so, for what reasons; and

(d) whether elections to the various Constituencies in the State will be contested simultaneously and if not, why not?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) Yes. Government are proceeding with necessary arrangements for holding the elections in November-December this year.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government of Madras have proposed that elections in that State may be held during the first three weeks of December, 1951. November, being a rainy month, is considered unsuitable.

(d) It will not be possible to hold elections in all the constituencies in a State at the same time, in view of the limited number of Officers available for

performing the duties of Presiding Officers, Polling Officers, Polling Clerks etc., and the inadequacy of the available police force for maintaining order at the polling booths all over a State on the same day. Polling will have to be spread over three to four weeks in the larger States.

NAVY FORCE

*2606. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state what steps, if any, Government are taking to attract the youth of the country to take up to Navy Force?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): The following steps are taken to attract people to the Navy:

(i) Advertisements in the Press emphasising the special features of a Naval career;

(ii) talks on the Radio;

(iii) exhibition of documentary films;

(iv) setting of temporary Touring Boards for recruitment;

(v) issuing of pamphlets, folders, cinema slides, posters and frequent tours by Recruiting Officers;

(vi) publishing the activities of the Navy through the Public Relations Officers; and

(vii) the observance of the Navy Day.

आयुर्वेदिक तथा यूनानी विद्यापीठ

* २६०७. **श्री खापर्डे :** क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस समय सरकार कितने आयुर्वेदिक तथा यूनानी विद्यापीठों को सहायता दे रही है ?

AID TO *Ayurvedic* AND *Unani Vidyapiths*

[*2607. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state how many *Ayurvedic* and *Unani Vidyapiths* are being given aid by Government of India at this time?]

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): No *Ayurvedic* or *Unani Vidyapith* is aided directly by the Government of India. It is being ascertained from the Chief Commissioners of Part 'C' States if there are *Vidyapiths* in their States receiving Government aid. The information when received will be laid on the Table of the House.

Biri STALL HOLDERS OF CALCUTTA

*2608. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a licence fee of Rs. 50 per shop has already been imposed and collected from the *Biri* Stall Holders in Calcutta, the last date of payment of this newly imposed licence fee being 10th March, 1951;

(b) whether it is a fact that every *Biri* Shop-keeper has been asked to give a "Security Bond" to Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that every *Biri* Stall Holder has been asked to provide a separate room, other than the shop, for manufacture and storage of *Biri*?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) I presume that by the expression "*Biri* Stall Holder", the hon. Member is referring to a single individual rolling *biris* and selling them in his stall. Such a holder, whether in Calcutta or elsewhere, is exempted from payment of Central Excise duty (manufacture duty) on the *biris* produced by him, but is required to pay a licence fee of Rs. 37-8-0 for the current year in two convenient instalments, provided that he does not consume more than 15 lbs. of raw tobacco in a month in the manufacture of his *biris*.

No date has been fixed at Calcutta as the last date for payment of any instalment of this licence fee.

(b) I presume again that by the expression "*Biri* Shop-keeper" the hon. Member has in mind the same type of individual referred to in part (a) of his question. Such a shop-keeper is not required to give any 'Security Bond' to Government.

(c) No, Sir.

PRE-FABRICATED HOUSING FACTORY

*2609. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether a Committee, as suggested during discussion on Supplementary Demands on the Housing Factory, has been appointed in connection with the Pre-fabricated Factory?

(b) If so, what is its composition and terms of reference?

(c) What steps have been taken to see that the factory produces the type of houses for which it was originally meant?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). The question

of appointing such a Committee is under consideration.

If and when this Committee is appointed it will naturally be asked to explore all avenues for the most effective use of the Housing Factory.

SCHEDULED CASTES, TRIBES AND BACKWARD CLASSES

*2611. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state how the money allotted for the welfare and development of Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Backward classes for the year 1951-52 will be distributed to the States?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): A lump sum provision of Rs. one crore has been made for grants-in-aid under the provisos to Article 275 of the Constitution for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and the development of Scheduled Areas—not for Scheduled Castes or other Backward Scheduled Castes or other Backward classes. The actual allotment will be made after details of development schemes are received from the State Governments and approved by the Government of India.

UNLICENCED LIQUOR SHOPS IN DELHI

*2612. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of raids arranged by the Excise Department for capturing unauthorised dealers of liquor since the introduction of partial prohibition in Delhi; and

(b) the total number of prosecutions and convictions in respect of such unauthorised sale of liquor after the introduction of prohibition in Delhi?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

INDIAN PRESS LAWS REFORMS ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*2613. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state whether the Indian Press Laws Reforms Enquiry Committee has submitted its report?

(b) When was the Committee appointed and on what date did the Committee submit its report?

(c) Have Government considered the Report and passed orders?

(d) What are the main recommendations of the Committee?

(e) What was the cost involved at the Committee stage?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). The Press Laws Enquiry Committee was appointed in March, 1947 and submitted its Report in May, 1948.

(c) Yes. The necessary legislation will be submitted to Parliament.

(d) The recommendations are contained in the Report, copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

(e) Rs. 32,860.

AIR TRAVEL BY OFFICERS

157. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state how many planes are maintained for Air Travel by Ministers and officers of the Government of India?

(b) Who are the officers entitled to use such planes?

(c) What was the cost of maintenance of such planes in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) No planes are maintained exclusively for the air travel of Ministers or officers of the Government. But six aircraft of the Communication Squadron of the Indian Air Force, Palam, are used for normal Air Force practice flying, communication commitments, and special air lifts and also for the air travel of V.I.Ps.

(b) Those entitled to the use of these aircraft are:

(1) President,

(2) The Prime Minister,

(3) The Defence Minister and

(4), (5) and (6) The Commanders-in-Chief, Army, Navy and Air Force.

Serving officers of the Armed Forces and senior civilian officers of the Defence Ministry, when travelling on duty, are also permitted to use them.

(c) As the aircraft are not reserved exclusively for the air travel of V.I.Ps. but are used for various communication purposes, separate figures regarding the cost of their maintenance for air travel are not kept.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 30th March, 1951.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SUGAR FOR CANNED AND BOTTLED FOODS

*2657. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state.

(a) the annual total quantity of canned and bottled foods manufactured in India;

(b) the total number of manufacturers who manufacture this class of goods;

(c) whether they get enough quantity of sugar for the production; and

(d) how many concerns have been closed down for want of sugar?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 4083·5 tons in 1949 and 6550·5 tons in 1950.

(b) 327 in 1949 and 404 in 1950.

(c) Every effort is made to allot reasonable quota of sugar to all fruits product manufacturers consistent with the supply position. Due to shortage of sugar, however it is not possible to meet their demand in full. Henceforward it has been decided that the State Governments will allot sugar to such concerns. As originally the reply was given, it stated, "This arrangement is considered more satisfactory." But, after this answer was drafted and submitted, complaints have been received that the new arrangement does not work satisfactorily. The matter is under examination.

(d) Four in 1949 in Punjab and none in 1950.

Shri Sidhva: Of these concerns which have been closed down, as stated just now by the hon. Minister in reply to part (d) of the question, may I know how many have been re-opened, and whether sugar was supplied to them particularly?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The only question was, as I said, four small concerns were reported to have closed down in Punjab in 1949 for want of sugar. But, the total number of licence holders in the State increased from 45 in 1948 to 70 1949 and 91 in 1950.

Shri Sidhva: My question was how many have been reopened after they were closed down for want of sugar?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no information on that point.

Shri Sidhva: Out of the licences, how many work with power and how many work on a small scale cottage industry basis?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: Now that stocks of sugar are sufficient, is it a fact that every one of these concerns will receive the quotas that they require?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Now there is no difficulty because there is the open market from which they can purchase and manufacture any quantity they like.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what quantity or proportion of sugar is given to these manufacturers out of the rationed quantity available for general consumption?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The quantity that was given during 1950, is unfortunately in pounds. It is 1,46,73,132 pounds. I will have to work this out into maunds and tons.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that since answering his question, he has received com-

that the arrangement made is not satisfactory. May I know whether these complaints were from Bombay or from somewhere else, if they are, not from Bombay, and what was the complaint?

Shri K. M. Munshi: A deputation of representatives of several provinces waited upon me; my impression is that one of them was from Bombay.

Shri Kamath: Have any cases been reported to the Minister, of sugar having been sanctioned for non-existent factories—not in the Minister's time perhaps, but before he assumed office—and what action was taken in such cases?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not know whether any sugar was issued to any non-existing firms except one in Delhi. That is my impresion. I think some steps were going to be taken; I am not quite sure of that.

Shri Kamath: Going to be taken?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Or have been taken: I am not quite sure. I had come across those papers at some time.

PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZERS

*2658. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the demand for phosphatic fertilizers in our country?

(b) What are the sources from which super-phosphate can be obtained?

(c) Are the sources of supply adequate to meet the demand?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) For the calendar year 1951, the estimated demand for single super-phosphate is 80,000 tons and that for bonemeal is 20,000 tons.

(b) and (c): India has 13 factories which can manufacture all the super-phosphate for which there is demand. There is however shortage of sulphur which they need and though every effort is being made to arrange adequate supplies of sulphur, it is uncertain whether the requisite quantity will be manufactured this year.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether phosphate used in India is from bones or from rocks and which is superior?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As regards superiority, I am not a competent scientist to say anything about it. I understand that the raw materials are sulphur for the preparation of sulphuric acid and rock phosphate.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Do we export any quantity of this phosphate?

Shri K. M. Munshi: We want all the phosphate produdced in this country.

Shri Chaliha: May I know if any enquiry has been made whether Chilean nitrates have been imported and whether they are as useful as superphosphates?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I would like to have notice.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether production in the Travancore Fertilisers Ltd., has been stopped because of non-availability of sulphur?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no information for the present.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there was any delay in the arrangement for Exchange for purchasing sulphur for the Travancore Fertilisers Ltd.?

Shri K. M. Munshi: If the hon. Member gives notice with regard to Travancore Fertilisers, I shall have it ascertained.

Shri R. Velayudhan: It is very important, Sir.

Shri K. M. Munshi: I agree with you that it is extremely important; but I am ignorant for the moment, that's all.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know what are the agencies for the distribution of these fertilisers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are sources of demand: he wants sources of distribution. The hon. Member will put down another question. Next question.

CUSTOMS BARRIERS

*2659. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs barriers which existed between the different States now integrated into a single unit like Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, P.E.P.S.U. are still existing;

(b) if so, to what extent and the reasons for such continuance; and

(c) by which date and what stages the existing barriers inside the said Unions are likely to be eliminated?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No.

(b) and (c): **Do not arise.**

Shri Dwivedi: When customs barriers are supposed to have gone, where is the need for the hurdles between Uttar Pradesh and Vindhya Pradesh?

Shri Gopalaswami: One is a Part B State and the other is a Part A State. The question relates to the abolition of internal barriers with the States.

Shri A. H. S. Ali: When so many other taxes have been imposed upon the people of Hyderabad, like the Sales Tax, Profession Tax, Income-tax, when does the hon. Minister think that the customs barriers in Hyderabad will be lifted?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That does not arise out of this question.

Shri Kamath: Did the hon. Minister state that Vindhya Pradesh has become a Part B State now?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is a Part C State. The same principles apply to Part C States as well.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether all the customs barriers between old Princely States and the Indian States have been removed and if so whether all the staff has also been retrenched?

Shri Gopalaswami: The barriers between the old Indian States and the States which were previously British provinces have not yet been removed. They will be removed in the course of the next few years.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Within the States, whether they are Part A or Part C States, the barriers have been removed. But between one State and another, the barriers will be removed in the course of two years.

Thakur Lal Singh: Sir, Bhopal is in Part C and Madhya Bharat is a Part B State. There are no customs barriers in Bhopal, but there are such barriers in Madhya Bharat. What will happen to Bhopal when it is merged into the other State? Will the barriers be re-imposed?

Shri Gopalaswami: When Bhopal gets merged, then the barriers will be removed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is further a hypothetical question.

SEEDS MULTIPLICATION FARMS

*2660. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of seed multiplication farms established by Government for the increased production of jute and *mesta* seeds;

(b) the average expenditure on each farm and the average quantity of seeds produced by each farm during 1950-51;

(c) the demand of jute and *mesta* seeds in the country for 1951-52 and how Government propose to meet them; and

(d) the quantity of jute and *mesta* seeds exported annually to Pakistan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) No such farm has yet been established by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The overall demand of jute seeds in the country for 1951-52 would be about two lakh maunds. This is expected to be met by seeds produced by the cultivators themselves. In those areas where local seed production is inadequate, the demand is expected to be met through normal trade channels. Certain quantities of improved seeds, produced mostly by the registered growers, will be distributed by the Jute Development Sections of West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar. The demand for mesta seeds would be roughly 1,05,000 maunds, which the cultivators themselves should be able to meet. About 10,000 maunds of seeds grown in U.P. will be available for distribution in deficit areas, as also in areas where mesta cultivation will be taken up for the first time.

(d) Jute and mesta seeds are not exported to Pakistan, at present.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the seeds supplied by the Central Government to West Bengal during 1950 had germination percentage of only 35 per cent. and whether the West Bengal Government complained about this matter?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The seeds provided last year were found to be inadequate for the purposes of germination. I have not got the exact figure of percentage of how much of these proved useful; but an enquiry is being conducted on that matter.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, what compensation have Government given to the cultivators who used these seeds and who incurred a loss by preparing the land for cultivation of jute, and what action have Government taken or contemplate to take against the firm which supplied these seeds and the officers who purchased these seeds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No question of compensation would arise and none is in contemplation of Government. As regards the failure of certain

officers to secure the proper kind of jute seeds, the officers are under suspension and the matter is under enquiry.

Dr. M. M. Das: I wanted to know, Sir, whether an enquiry has been made against the officers and the firm that supplied these seeds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Enquiry has been first made against the officers and the officers have been suspended; and further enquiry is taking place.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the number of officers who were punished?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, two I think.

Shri Sidhva: Is it the position that the seeds supplied were of inferior quality and therefore the yield was less and therefore, from that point of view these officers have been suspended? And the hon. Minister said that some of them have been punished. May I know what was the punishment given?

Shri K. M. Munshi: They have not been punished.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister said so.

Shri K. M. Munshi: If I said that, it was either a slip or perhaps the hon. Member did not hear me correctly. Anyway, what I stated was or what I intend to say is that there is a suspicion or more than a suspicion that there has been some misconduct in purchasing these seeds, and therefore, two officers concerned have been suspended and an enquiry is being conducted into their conduct, or is going to be conducted.

Shri Sidhva: May I know, Sir, whether a charge-sheet has been given to the suspended officers and their explanation obtained?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The enquiry is still to be held.

Shri Bharati: Sir, what is the amount involved?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The amount is the price of the seed and that is very little. But the real loss is that instead of growing jute as it should have been grown, we grew jute to a lower extent than expected.

Shri Bharati: Yes, and what I wanted to know is the loss incurred thereby.

Shri K. M. Munshi: That no one can say. We cannot say how much would have been grown if the proper jute seeds had been supplied or how much would have been realised, or if there had been no refugee movements what would have happened and so on and so forth. They are all hypothetical questions?

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been any enquiry conducted into the conduct of the firm which supplied the seeds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: First of all we are making an enquiry into the conduct of the officers, and that would show whether they were guilty of buying the bad seed or whether some firm cheated them into giving it. The hon. Member is going to a further stage; he should exercise some patience in this matter.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, I have another question and...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought he had put a sufficient number of questions. Well, all right.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it a fact that our supplies of jute and mesta seeds are inadequate and therefore our "grow more jute campaign" has suffered considerably for want of adequate seeds?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There are two questions now. First of all as we are not self-sufficient in jute, we are trying to increase the quantity of jute to 45·6 lakhs bales in this country next year, *i.e.*, 1951-1952. The loss of food grains thereby would be comparatively very little.

Dr. M. M. Das: What I wanted to know was whether the production of jute seeds is sufficient to meet the demands in our country.

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is quite sufficient.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: Considering that more jute is to be grown and there is not sufficient seed stock with Government, do Government consider the opening of more farms for producing these seeds?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The supply of seeds is quite sufficient says the Minister.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: No, the seeds have to be purchased from private farms.

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far no State Government except the Government of Uttar Pradesh has set up any such Government farm. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have opened a farm at Gogra Ghat.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS

*2661. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Telephone Operators in the Calcutta Telephones;

(b) whether there are any male Telephone Operators and if so, their number;

(c) their monthly pay including D.A. and other allowances, if any;

(d) the average daily number of calls handled by an operator in normal hours of duty; and

(e) the number of working hours per week?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 767.

(b) Yes. 48.

(c) The operators who have been recruited under the ex-Bengal Telephone Corporation terms and conditions of service draw pay in the scale of Rs. 70—10—140. Those recruited on P. & T. terms and conditions draw pay in the scale of Rs. 60—4—120—E.B.—5—170. All the operators get dearness allowance, house rent allowance and city compensatory allowance at different rates according to pay groups.

(d) 915.

(e) 45 hours, including three hours meal relief.

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, may I know whether it is a fact that the present scales of pay of the telephone operators in Calcutta are less than what they used to get when the concern was under private ownership?

Shri Kidwai: In my reply I have given both the terms—what they were getting under the company and what they are getting under our terms.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether many amenities like free meals during duty hours, tea etc. which they were getting before have been discontinued now?

Shri Kidwai: To which group does the hon. Member refer?

Dr. M. M. Das: I refer to the telephone operators of Calcutta.

Shri Kidwai: There are two groups —one recruited by the ex-company under its own terms of employment and the others are those who are employed by the P. & T. under Government service.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it a fact that the sleeping accommodation provided for these operators who terminate their duty in the dead of night is insufficient and sometimes some of these operators have to keep awake during the rest of the night due to want of sleeping accommodation?

Shri Kidwai: That is not my information. When I was last there I saw that the beds were available to the operators who served in the night and were relieved in the night.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Is the hon. Minister aware that the telephone exchange operation in Calcutta is the most inefficient? If so, what steps are Government taking to improve it?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, it is most inefficient and I have my sympathy with the Calcutta people for paying higher rates for this inefficient service. We are starting a new telephone exchange there.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how our expenditure on and revenue from the Calcutta telephone operation have been affected since the unit has been taken over by the Government.

Shri Kidwai: Both expenditure and revenue have increased.

Shri A. C. Guha: By what proportion?

Shri Kidwai: I have not got the figures here.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Sir, this lamp in front of the Chair, hides your vision and we do not get an opportunity to catch your eye. It may be removed or placed on the other side.

Shri Chaliha: It is also a cause of disturbance to us.

INDIAN SHIPPING TRADE

*2662. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what amount of Indian shipping trade is still carried on by foreign companies?

(b) Are all the Indian shipping companies private companies or is any of them a Government-owned company?

(c) Has the Shipping Corporation been set up and if so, what shipping services does it control?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of starred question No. 2270 asked by him on the 16th March 1951.

(b) All the Indian shipping companies engaged in the coastal trade have private capital, while, of the three Indian companies engaged in the overseas trades, one, the Eastern Shipping Corporation Limited, is a partially owned Government concern, in which the Government of India hold 74 per cent. of the capital and

have majority control, and the balance, 26 per cent., is held by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited, who are also the managing agents.

(c) The Eastern Shipping Corporation was registered on the 24th March 1950 and participates at present in the following trades:

India/Australia with two owned cargo ships.

India/Malaya with one chartered cargo-cum-passenger ship.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether this Corporation consists of a number of companies or it is only one company having a number of ships?

Shri Santhanam: The Eastern Shipping Corporation is only one in which there are two shareholders: one is the Government of India and the other is the Scindia Steam Navigation Co.

Shri Veerabahu: To whom does the chartered vessel belong?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the information handy.

Shri Veerabahu: Is the charter on a bare boat basis or time-charter basis?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice of the question.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that some of the ships which are Government-owned are being run by these private shipping companies by arrangement?

Shri Santhanam: There are none: except these two vessels and one chartered vessel there are no Government-owned vessels at all.

RESERVED POSTS IN RAILWAYS

*2663. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class IV, class III and class II posts among the 15,000 posts in the Railways arising out of the Adjudicator's award and reserved for the displaced persons;

(b) the number of each class of the posts so far filled up; and

(c) the number of reserved posts filled up by persons other than displaced persons, if any?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Out of the vacancies expected to arise due to the implementation of the Adjudicator's Award, 15,000 were reserved for displaced persons, as under:

Class IV posts	.....	10,500
Class III posts	.....	4,500
Class II posts	.....	*Nil*

Although reservation of posts for displaced persons has been subsequently held to be *ultra vires* of Article 16(1) of the Constitution, the total number of 15,000 originally reserved for displaced persons was completed by giving preference to them over others provided other things were equal. Due to paucity of suitable candidates for certain categories and in certain areas, shortage in the Adjudicator's Award vacancies were made up by recruitment in vacancies arising out of normal wastage.

(b) The information available up to end of January, 1951 is furnished below:

Class IV posts	...	10,839
Class III posts	...	3,197
Class II posts	.....	*Nil*
Total.	...	14,036

The figures include recruitment against normal vacancies also.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri A. C. Guha: Was the matter referred to any court? If so, which court declared it *ultra vires*?

Shri Santhanam: It was considered by our Law Ministry.

Shri A. C. Guha: Without any reference to any court?

Shri Santhanam: There was no question of going to court in this case of a Government department recruiting people and this was the opinion of the Law Ministry. A Government department does not go to a court against other departments.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Was it considered by the Law Ministry that these displaced persons constituted a backward class?

Shri Santhanam: They were not considered to be a backward class and therefore there is no question of reservation.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Is it a fact that the term 'backward' has not been defined so far under section 16(1)?

Shri Santhanam: It is a matter of legal interpretation, in which I can give no further information to the hon. Member.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Is it true that the interpretation of the Constitution is left to the courts and not to Ministries?

Shri Santhanam: In the initial stages one has to act on one's own interpretation.

Shri Sidhva: Will the hon. Minister lay on the Table the opinion of the Law Minister?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): Why not put the question to the Law Minister?

Shri Santhanam: So far as this question is concerned we have discharged the promise of absorbing 15,000 men.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that the Adjudicator functioned something like a judicial tribunal?

Shri Santhanam: It is no tribunal. The Adjudicator gave an award regarding hours of employment and other matters. We are carrying out that award and in the course of that a considerable number of displaced persons have been employed.

HANGARS

*2664. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the rental charged from air companies for using hangars in aerodromes; and

(b) the basis for such charges and the total collection?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) For housing aircraft in hangar, a "housing charge" is levied per aircraft according to the rates prescribed in Section B, Schedule V to the Indian Aircraft Rules. When a whole hangar, or a specified portion of a hangar is rented out, rent is charged at a flat rate of Rs. 10/- per 100 sq. ft. per mensem or the standard rent of the accommodation, whichever is higher.

(b) The charges have been so fixed in both cases that if the hangars are fully occupied there will be a return of about 6 per cent. on the capital expenditure incurred on the hangar, after meeting the cost of maintenance. The total collection for the period 1st April, 1950, to 31st December 1950, amounted to Rs. 9·86 lakhs (namely, Rs. 4·16 lakhs as "housing charges" and Rs. 5·70 lakhs as rent of hangars or parts of hangars).

Shri A. C. Guha: Has there been any increase in these charges recently?

Shri Kidwai: I do not think so: but I have got no definite information.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the Air Transport Enquiry Committee made any recommendation on this matter?

Shri Kidwai: That Committee's report is coming before the House for discussion. It has been circulated to hon. Members and they can find from it whether the Committee has made any such recommendation.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if any new hangars have been constructed by the Government recently, and, if so, is there any difference between the rent charged for the new hangars and the rent charged for hangars which were constructed by the military during the war period?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice of that question, but if the standard rent is 6 per cent. of the expenditure then I think there must be some difference.

Shri Sidhva: May I know the total capital invested in these hangars?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly see that the Minister cannot have an encyclopaedic knowledge and have all these figures at his fingers' ends. The question relates to rentals.

WHEAT FROM ARGENTINA

*2665. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have entered into a contract to barter jute for wheat from Argentina?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the Government of India have contracted to barter Indian jute with Argentine wheat although they had previously declined to enter into a similar agreement with the U.S.A. for exchanging Indian jute with American foodstuffs?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is not correct.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of the United States had expressed a desire to enter into an agreement with the Government of India for exchanging American foodstuffs with Indian jute?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Barter with U.S.A.? I would like to have notice of that question. I have got no idea that no such offer has come, but I speak subject to correction.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the terms of the agreement which has been entered into with Argentina for bartering Indian jute with Argentine wheat?

Shri K. M. Munshi: 60,000 metric tons of jute-manufactured articles are to be bartered for 468,000 metric tons of wheat, the exchange ratio being 7·8 tons of wheat for one ton of jute goods.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the quantity of wheat which has so far arrived and the quantity of jute which has been sent so far?

Shri K. M. Munshi: So far as that is concerned I must require notice.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether we purchase any wheat from Argentina over and above the barter amount?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I don't think so, but I again speak subject to correction.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is it a fact that the American Government is prepared to supply us foodgrains in lieu of iron ore?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does it arise? The question relates to Argentina.

Shri Chaliha: May I know, when there was an acute shortage of jute in West Bengal, the Government entered into a contract with Brazil for supply of jute, and if so, whether the jute can now be diverted to Argentina for wheat?

Shri Hussain Imam: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the jute manufactures have already been purchased or will have to be purchased at the present high prices?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The jute goods which are to be delivered by the Government of India under the contracts which had been made up to the date of decontrol, are to be purchased at the old rate.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether our agreement with Argentina for Argentine wheat has been adversely interpreted by the American State Department?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no such information at my disposal—I don't know how my hon. friend gets all this.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know when we will be receiving wheat from Argentina on the basis of this contract?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I think some is already in the process of arriving.

Shri K. C. Sharma: What would be the probable price of this wheat from Argentina in terms of the prices prevailing here?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Notice.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: On a point of order, Sir. May I know how a Minister can pass such a reflection as to say that an hon. Member may be possessing more information than the Minister concerned?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is not a reflection. I said, what is the source of this information?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is there? In certain matters hon. Members may know something more than an hon. Minister.

Civil Aviation Training

*2666. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of help or assistance given by Government to private Flying Clubs for Civil Aviation training schemes; and

(b) how many private trainees schemes are at work in India and how many are run by the Government?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) I place on the Table a statement showing the scale of assistance granted by the Central Government to flying clubs, whether private or controlled by State Governments. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 1.]

(b) Nine flying clubs and two gliding clubs are private limited companies; two flying training institutions namely, the Mysore Flying Training School, Bangalore, and the Hyderabad State Aero Club, Begumpet, are run by State Governments all of which receive subsidies from the Central Government; besides them, there is the Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad, of the Central Government.

Shri Rathnaswamy: How many aircrafts have been loaned by the Government so far to the various flying clubs and which is the flying club that has been given the maximum number of aircrafts?

Shri Kidwai: I have no information on it here.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know what is the total subsidy given to the various flying clubs during 1950-51, and also whether there is any check maintained to see whether the subsidies given by Government to the various flying clubs are properly utilised?

Shri Kidwai: The subsidies are related to the performance. Every flying club gets an annual grant of Rs. 30,000/-. Besides that flying clubs get a grant for training according to the flying hours each trainee has flown. Then they get a further grant per licence that is granted to trainees of that flying club.

Shri Rathnaswamy: How many flying clubs have erected their own hangars?

Shri Kidwai: The question does not relate to hangars, but still I may say most of the flying clubs are using our hangars.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: My hon. friend, Mr. Rathnaswamy asked which flying club has got the maximum number of aircraft. May I know whether any maximum is fixed for any flying club?

Shri Kidwai: No.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many flying clubs exist in U.P. having training schemes, and who is the officer in charge?

Shri Kidwai: We don't appoint anybody to be in charge of flying clubs—they are private clubs. In U.P. so far as I remember, there is only one flying club known as the Hind Flying Club. It has got training centres at Allahabad, Kanpur and Lucknow. Besides, there is a Government Training Centre at Allahabad.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: May I know how many flying clubs are run exclusively by Princes and how many of them are subsidised by the Government of India?

Shri Kidwai: No club exclusively run by Princes is being subsidised by the Government of India.

Shri Jainarain Vyas: How many of them are run by Princes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: None. He said none is exclusively run by the Princes.

Shri Kidwai: I did not say none is exclusively run by the Princes. I said no club exclusively run by Princes is subsidised.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether any stipends or scholarships are given to the trainees for the flying clubs?

Shri Kidwai: I understand some of the State Governments are giving some scholarships, but none is given by the Central Government.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What is the difference between the cost of training by a flying club and the cost of training by the Government?

Shri Kidwai: I think it comes to about the same.

Deposits in Indian Post Offices

*2667. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the total amount of deposits held at the Indian Post Offices on the 15th August 1947 and on the 15th August 1950?

(b) Are there Savings Banks at the village post offices also?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The amounts of deposit held in P.O. Savings Bank and Defence Savings Bank on the 15th August, 1947 were Rs. 1,17,23,85,272/- and Rs. 5,95,13,652/- respectively. The figures for the 15th August, 1950 were not maintained. The amounts of deposit held in P.O. Savings Bank and P.O. Defence Savings Bank on the 31st March, 1950 were however Rs. 1,67,19,34,364 and Rs. 1,50,32,299 respectively.

(b) Yes. About 30 per cent. Village Post Offices are authorised to do Savings Bank work.

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि सन् १९५० में देहात के क्षेत्रों में कितनी रकम जमा हुई ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the amount of deposits made in the rural areas during 1950?]

श्री किदवाई : वह इस वक्त बतलाना मुश्किल है ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** It is difficult to give the figures just now.]

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know the present amount in these two accounts?

Shri Kidwai: I require notice for that.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether the latter figure includes the deposits in the Travancore-Cochin Anjal offices also?

Shri Kidwai: No.

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि देहातों में नैशनल सेविंग सार्टिफ़िकेट्स ख़रीदने के लिए क्या प्रबन्ध है और यदि कोईप्रबन्ध है तो क्या जो लोग एजेन्ट्स का काम करते हैं उन को उस पर कोई कमिशन दिया जाता है।

[**Shri Dwivedi:** I want to know as to what arrangements have been made in the villages regarding the purchase of National Savings Certificates and if any arrangement exists, whether those persons who act as agents get any commission for that?]

श्री किदवाई : मैं समझता हूं कई रोज़ हुए फ़ाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर ने इस का जवाब दे दिया है। अगर आप कोई मज़ीद इन्फ़ार्मेशन चाहते हैं तो फ़ाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर इस का जवाब दे सकते हैं।

[**Shri Kidwai:** I think, some days ago, the hon. Minister of Finance gave a reply to such a question. If some more information is required the hon. Minister of Finance can furnish that.]

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the amount of interest that Government had to pay on these deposits in 1950?

Shri Kidwai: It is difficult for me to say but the rate of interest is well known and can be calculated.

Shri Sonavane: How many Savings Bank sections were opened in rural post offices last year and what is the criterion for opening such Savings Bank Section in rural post offices?

Shri Kidwai: Wherever there is demand, we try to open Savings Bank accounts there.

Shri Sonavane: How many were opened during last year?

Shri Kidwai: I require notice for that.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that in Rohtak district many ex-military retired officers who get pensions, feel the need of rural Savings Banks and if so, is he prepared to open there, as there will be a success?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member will send me a suggestion, I will see what can be done.

Shri Joachim Alva: How many cases of defalcation have occurred or been detected after this matter was raised through interpellations in this House during the last Session in respect of Savings Bank accounts?

Shri Kidwai: I think there is a question immediately after this on this subject.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Do Government propose to start mobile Post Office Savings Banks for Rohtak District?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has stated that a letter may be written and Government will look into this.

May I say at this stage that in order to facilitate the answer of questions, hon. Ministers may kindly consider whether it is not desirable and possible to answer all questions relating to the same matter together. It may be that questions may have been put by different Members and they may in some form or other be interrelated. In such cases a single answer to all these questions may be useful and may save time.

Shri Kidwai: The next question is generally about post offices and not about Savings Bank accounts.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This was the practice some time ago. In respect of questions relating to a particular subject, the answer may be given together.

POSTAL EMPLOYEES (CORRUPTION)

*2668. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of Postal employees who were prosecuted and punished during 1949 and 1950 on the following charges: (i) misappropriation of money receipts; and (ii) taking bribes or illegal gratification?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): The number of postal (including Railway Mail Service) employees prosecuted and punished for misappropriation of money were 158 during 1949 and 160 during 1950, while the corresponding number for taking bribes or illegal gratification were 2 during 1949 and 4 during 1950.

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : इनमें से कितने मामलों में सजा दी गई है अदालतों में और कितनों में नहीं ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** In how many cases prosecution proceedings were started and punishments awarded by courts and in how many not?]

Shri Kidwai: In some cases the prosecution is still pending.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the amount of misappropriation during this period?

Shri Kidwai: It will be a long statement, but I can furnish the hon. Member with the information.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many misappropriation cases were in connection with M.O's., how many were in connection with Postal Savings Certificates and how many were in connection with other cases of refund of war loans?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member will put a question, he will get all the information.

AIR CARRIAGE OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS

*2669. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of passengers and quantity of goods carried by inland airways of India during the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): The number of passengers carried by Indian companies on air services within India and between India, Burma, Ceylon and Pakistan was 400,312 during 1949 and 506,685 during 1950, and the quantity of goods was 19,776 tons and 95,718 tons respectively.

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : सन् १९५० में मुसाफिरों और माल का जो किराया आया उसकी रकम कितनी है ?

[**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** What is the amount of money obtained by way of fares and freight from the passengers and the goods carried during 1950?]

श्री किदवाई : इस वक्त तो मुझे इस की कोई इत्तला नहीं है।

[**Shri Kidwai:** At present I have no information on the point.]

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that there is no insurance on goods carried by these airways?

Shri Kidwai: I would refer the hon. Member to the Indian Aircraft Rules.

Shri Chaliha: May I know the quantity of goods carried by inland airways from Assam to Calcutta and *vice versa*?

Shri Kidwai: I have not got the separate figures.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What steps have Government taken to popularise air travel in India?

Shri Kidwai: Well, the Air Companies advertised for the carriage of passengers and goods on their routes.

FORCED-LANDING OF MADHYA PRADESH FLYING CLUB PLANE

*2670. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plane belonging to the Madhya Pradesh Flying Club forced-landed at Khandwa on the 13th February and if so, what were the causes that led to its forced-landing;

(b) whether there were any casualties or any damage as a result of this; and

(c) whether this plane was insured?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, Sir; the forced landing was due to minor engine trouble, the exact nature of which is at present under investigation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether Government compensates the loss sustained by Flying Clubs whenever any Flying Club plane is involved in accidents of this kind?

Shri Kidwai: Government has supplied to most of the Flying Clubs a number of aeroplanes free of cost and the Flying Clubs have insured them. If there is any loss, then the money that they get from the Insurance Companies is there to enable them to purchase a new plane.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether any enquiry has been instituted in order to find out the causes of these accidents?

Shri Kidwai: That is what I stated in my reply.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Is it a fact that during recent times a good number of accidents have happened to the

Flying Club planes and if so have any steps been taken by Government to prevent such frequent accidents?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, it is true. Therefore, the Department is examining what further check it should place on the persons handling these aircrafts.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the number of accidents involving Flying Club planes is on the increase and if so, what are the reasons for it?

Shri Kidwai: It is on the increase for this reason that more and more people are being trained. The number of aircraft in operation has increased and proportionately the number of accidents also has increased. I think the accidents have been due to the recklessness of the trainees and in some cases due to the failure of engines. We are revising the rules, so that we may have a greater check on these aeroplanes.

CONSTITUTION HOUSE POST OFFICE

*2671. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether any complaint has been received regarding irregular clearance of letters from the Post Box in the Constitution House, New Delhi?

(b) If so, has any enquiry been made?

(c) What is the average number of articles posted at the Constitution House Post Office?

(d) Is it a fact that the Russian Embassy's post (news and pamphlets) is registered for posting at this post office?

(e) If so, what is the number of articles posted by them every month?

(f) What is the accommodation of this Post Office and the strength of the staff employed?

(g) Has any representation been made for additional accommodation and extra staff to cope with the increased work, and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) About 9,260 daily.

(d) Yes.

(e) About 2 lakhs.

(f) The accommodation of this Post Office is 233 sq. ft. The staff employed consists of one Sub-Postmaster, two clerks and one packer.

(g) A representation has been received regarding one additional clerk who will be sanctioned shortly. No representation has been received regarding inadequate accommodation. The accommodation in the Post Office is adequate according to the Departmental standards.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know, Sir, the number of telegrams that is handled by this Post Office on an average per day?

Shri Kidwai: I have no information in my records.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether Government propose to convert this post office into a telegraph office also?

Shri Kidwai: Recently one of the Members had complained that telegraphs which were registered for the convenience of Members took time to be sent to the Central Telegraph Office. Therefore it has been decided that such messages should be sent to the telegraph office by telephone.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister replied to all my questions in the affirmative and said that nearly two lakh articles are handled by this post office. In view of this does he still hold that there is no necessity for increasing the accommodation of this post office, and whether it is in conformity with the rules?

Shri Kidwai: That is what I have stated.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know why Members of Parliament who live in Constitution House are given the facility of free telephones?

Shri Kidwai: I do not think they are given the facility of free telephones.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether persons other than residents of the Constitution House can register their letters in the Constitution House Post Office?

Shri Kidwai: Everybody can register his letters in this post office.

Dr. Parmar: What is the amount of money orders handled by this post office?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All the allowances received by Members.

Shri Lakshmanan: On a point of information, Sir. When a question is put to an hon. Minister is it open to the Chair to reply?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Occasionally.

RAILWAY STATION AT NEPA

*2672. **Shri B. L. Tiwari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government have taken any decision to build a Railway Station at Nepa, near Nepa Mills in Madhya Pradesh?

(b) When was the decision taken?

(c) Why is it that the Station has not been built so far?

(d) When do Government expect to complete building the said Railway Station at Nepa?

(e) Is it a fact that, near Nepa, for want of a Station, the trains are generally slowed down in speed to allow passengers to get on and get down and that this involves loss of revenue to Government and risks of accidents?

(f) How many accidents, as referred to in part (e) above, have come to the notice of Government?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) The decision was taken in August, 1950.

(c) The delay is due to the question of the authority to whom the cost is chargeable being under examination with the Madhya Pradesh Government.

(d) As soon as the question of responsibility for cost is settled, the work will be taken in hand and completed within two months.

(e) Certain trains are slowed down near Nepa to set down and pick up railway cabin staff employed there. Trains also slow down on account of an engineering speed restriction. The Train Checking staff deal with passengers who try to make use of the halt for entraining or detraining in an unauthorised manner.

(f) None.

Shri R. L. Malviya: In view of the answer given to part (e) of the question will Government consider the desirability of opening a flag station at Nepa?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. The original agreement was that the Provincial Government concerned would pay the cost, on which the railways will open the station. As soon as they pay the cost we will open the station.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What are the difficulties in the way of arriving at a decision for fixing the responsibility of the cost of the station?

Shri Santhanam: It requires two parties to settle it.

Shri Kamath: What exactly are the points in dispute and what is the share which the Madhya Pradesh Government has been asked to bear?

Shri Santhanam: It was agreed that the station should be put up at the cost of the Nepa Mills. The Madhya Pradesh Government hold a majority of shares in these mills. Therefore negotiations are being carried on with the Madhya Pradesh Government.

MONOPOLY SYSTEM IN RAILWAY CATERING

*2673. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Central Advisory Council for Railways to do away with the system of monopoly in respect of Railway Catering in its meeting on 19th—22nd March 1950, have been implemented; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). The Central Advisory Council for Railways at their meeting held on 19th and 23rd December 1950, reconsidered their earlier recommendations and recommended that the method of disposal of contracts for Refreshment Rooms, Vendors' stalls etc. should be left entirely in the hands of the Railway Board to be dealt with in the best interests of the public, the only criterion being the quality of service. The matter is under review in the light of this recommendation.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, what system of catering will be adopted in the Southern Zone that has been recently formed out of the integration of the M. and S.M., S.I., and Mysore Railways?

Shri Santhanam: Most of the refreshment rooms in the S.I.R. and M. and S.M. are now under departmental management. Naturally these will be continued under departmental management. Vending contracts will go on as before.

Shri Sidhva: How many contracts have more than one stall and more than one refreshment room?

Shri Santhanam: Throughout all the railways?

Shri Sidhva: Yes.

Shri Santhanam: I think the hon. Member should put down a question on that matter.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the maximum number of stalls held by one contractor?

Shri Santhanam: I have not got the information here.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: May I know, Sir, whether the Railway Board will continue to pursue the old policy of giving preference to displaced persons from Pakistan, other things being equal, in the matter of allotting vending contracts?

Shri Santhanam: The instructions are, that other things being equal they should be given some preference.

EMBEZZLEMENT OF MONEY IN HYDERABAD

*2674. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an embezzlement of Rupees sixty crores from the Reserve Fund of the Hyderabad State has been alleged;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the truth of the said allegation has been admitted publicly by the Revenue Minister of the said State; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of India?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No.

(b) The Revenue Minister of Hyderabad made a statement some time ago that the pre-Police Action Government in Hyderabad squandered away large sums of money and an amount of Rs. 65 crores was mentioned.

(c) The Laik Ali Ministry squandered large sums of money before the Police Action on propaganda and warlike preparations. No action is possible by the Government of India against persons responsible for incurring this expenditure before the Police Action.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what was the basis for the allegation made by the Revenue Minister that a sum of Rs. 65 lakhs was squandered away or embezzeled?

Shri Gopalaswami: It was, I think, a kind of a guess based upon such information as the Revenue Minister had.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what is the fact established after the case?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is not possible to ascertain the details of sums spent in this way. For instance, we have been able to verify that a total amount of 9 crores and 15 lakhs of *sikka* rupees was spent by the Laik Ali Ministry on war preparations and propaganda. From the stand point of public interest, it is not possible to disclose the details of these.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, whether officers who are responsible for this embezzlement are still there?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am afraid the more important of those persons have migrated from Hyderabad to territories outside India.

Short Notice Question and Answer

AVAILABILITY OF RICE FROM BURMA

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a statement of Shri Mathiah Chettiar, Leader of the Opposition in the Madras Legislative Assembly, stating that 7 lakh tons of paddy is available for sale in Burma at £40 or £42 per ton.

(b) whether it is a fact that such quantity is available and at such rates and if so, what are the difficulties in the matter of importing the same.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information that the quantity mentioned in the statement is available at the rates mentioned.

Shri Bharati: May I know whether Government have made enquiries from Mathiah Chettiar asking for any definite information regarding the availabilities in Burma and, if they have made enquiries, with what result?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Government sent a telegram to Mr. Chettiar asking him to give them the facts with regard to the statements made by him in the Madras Legislative Assembly. He has replied to say that he took this information from a Ceylon newspaper. Then he said with regard to the rates—the words are: "I presume that the rates will be between £40 and £45 per ton." So one is hearsay evidence and the second is presumption.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that the Ceylon Government has entered into a deal with the Government of Burma in regard to the rice which was made available to India?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think that any arrangement has been made in respect of rice which was available to India. So far as India is concerned negotiations with Burma are going on.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Apart from the statement, have our Government made any enquiries in Burma and satisfied themselves that there is no surplus available there?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, negotiations are going on and the Prime Minister of Burma has assured our Prime Minister that 1,20,000 tons of rice will be available, and very

shortly a delegation is proceeding to Burma in order to negotiate a trade agreement.

Shri Bharati: What is the total quantity for which we have entered into an agreement till now to purchase rice from Burma?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Well, it may be 200,000 or 300,000 tons, I am not sure.

Shri Bharati: At what price?

Shri K. M. Munshi: At one time the price was £40.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: Are private transactions permissible between Burma and India?

Shri K. M. Munshi: As a matter of fact, private transactions are permissible in the sense that any merchant can make an offer to us. But so far as Burma is concerned there is State dealing of rice. So far as we are concerned we purchase rice for distribution in this country.

Shri Bharati: Is it a fact that a Madras food official contacted Mr. Mathiah Chettiar personally and asked for his help and Mr. Mathiah Chettiar was not willing to offer it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no personal information about it.

Shri Rathnaswamy: If private agencies are in a position to get rice from foreign countries at lesser prices than what Government can do, will the Government consider the desirability of allowing such private agencies to import rice from foreign countries?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Government is very willing to deal with merchants who are willing to sell those commodities even at the rate at which the Government of the other countries gives. But as I have told the House more than once, what happens is that merchants come here to the Food Ministry, then suddenly send a number of wires to the other countries with the result that they put up the prices and we have, between government to government, to pay a higher price. This has happened more than once.

Shri Bharati: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a report in a leading Madras paper that the agitation of Mr. Mathiah Chettiar is more with a view to put up prices in Burma rather than to secure rice?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The experience of the Food Ministry is that whenever merchants intervene, the other country puts up the prices and the government-to-government deal becomes difficult or costly.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether there was any proposal from the Burmese Government at any time for a contract for the bulk purchase of rice for a ten year period and India refused it?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The negotiations are going on for a term contract.

Shri Bharati: Are Government aware that Mr. Mathiah Chettiar has more than a lakh of acres in Burma?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Sir, I do not know the personal affairs of Mr. Chettiar.

Shri Veerabahu: When Ceylon has already concluded a rice deal with Burma may I know what is the difficulty so far as India is concerned?

Shri K. M. Munshi: For the last several months we have been pressing the Burma Government for a trade agreement and, as I pointed out, now a delegation is going from here.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: If any person puts in a specific application for import licence stating that he is prepared to sell rice at government rates in India, getting all the other facilities himself, will the Government issue a licence?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have said more than once that if any such merchant comes, his offer will be welcome. But so far no one has come.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD PROCUREMENT

*2675. **Shri Sivaprakasam:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have sent any directions to the Madras State to give up procurement of foodgrains in deficit areas where Rural Rationing was abolished?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The discontinuance of procurement in the derationed areas of deficit districts is an integral part of the Madras Government Scheme which has been approved by the Government of India.

INDO-PACIFIC FISHERIES COUNCIL

*2676. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the main decisions arrived at in the annual meeting of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council recently held?

(b) What were the participating countries?

(c) Is any scheme laid out for the "Grow More" "Catch More" campaign to be worked out in common?

(d) What are the financial implications of the scheme, if any?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 2.]

(b) Australia, Cambodia, Ceylon France, India, Indonesia, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom, U.S.A. and Viet Nam.

(c) No specific scheme was worked out.

(d) Does not arise.

NATIONALISATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT

***2677. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) how far nationalisation of road transport has been effected in the various Part "C" States;

(b) what is the road mileage in each Part "C" States, transport over which has since been nationalised; and

(c) what gain or loss has accrued to Government as a result of nationalisation of such transport?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). Three statements giving the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 3.]

CONTRACTS FOR TUBE WELL PUMPS

***2678. Shri Biyani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the copies of the contracts entered into by the different States with the Associated Tube Wells Limited for tube-well pumps, together with the full details of the various items with their respective contract prices?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The documents in question relate to contracts between the State Governments and M/S. Associated Tube Wells Ltd., to which the Government of India are not a party. Furthermore, there is the aspect that the contracts affect a third private party which may have objection to their publication. I am considering the constitutional and legal aspects as regards the propriety of my revealing these documents and will place a further answer on the Table of the House.

EXPERIMENTAL POST OFFICES

***2680. Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the total number of Experimental Post offices, existing at the beginning of the year and the number of those newly opened during the year 1950-51 in the State of Bihar?

(b) How many of them have since been made permanent?

(c) How many of those made permanent are in the charge of extra-departmental Agents?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 601 and 380 respectively.

(b) 225.

(c) 218.

मछली पकड़ने के ठेके

*२६८१. **श्री आर० एस० तिवारी :** (ए) **खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री** यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश सरकार को तालाबों, नदियों तथा अन्य जलाशयों से मछली पकड़ने के ठेके देने में कितनी आय होती है ?

(बी) क्या ये ठेके बाहर के व्यक्तियों को दिये जाते हैं अथवा केवल स्थानीय ढीमरों को ?

(सी) क्या यह मछली राज्य से निर्यात की जाती है अथवा राज्य के अन्दर ही बेची जाती है ?

(डी) ऐसे ठेकों की कुल संख्या क्या है ?

CONTRACTS FOR CATCHING FISH

[***2681. Shri R. S. Tewari:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the income of Vindhya Pradesh Government derived from giving contracts for catching fish in tanks, rivers and other water reservoirs?

(b) Are these contracts given to outsiders or to local *Dhimar* residents alone?

(c) Are these fish exported from or sold within the State?

(d) What is the total number of such contracts?]

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): The desired information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received from Vindhya Pradesh.

STATUTORY RATIONING IN MADRAS

***2682. Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the population in the State of Madras under Statutory Rationing?

(b) What is the normal requirement of this population, with regard to rice, per month?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) 60·1 lakhs.

(b) 37,000 tons per month at 8 ounces per adult per day on the basis of off-take from Government stocks.

CREATION OF JOINT INDO-BRITISH SHIPPING COMPANIES

***2683. Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the reference made in the speech of Sir William Crawfford Currie, G.B.E., while presiding over the 110th Annual Meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., in London on the 31st May 1950 to the proposals put before the Government of India, at their suggestion by the British India Company, towards the end of 1949 for the creation of two Joint Indo-British Shipping Companies;

(b) whether the Government of India had invited the British India Company, or any non-Indian shipping Company, to submit proposals for the creation of joint Indo-British Shipping Company, to operate ships under the Indian Flag upon the coastal trade and/or in overseas trade; and

(c) at what stage the negotiations, if any, rest?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The representatives of British Shipping interests in 1949 had occasion to discuss with the officials of the Commerce Ministry, informally and in a preliminary way, the question of participation of British capital in Indian shipping and thereafter submitted certain proposals in writing for Government's consideration. No definite conclusions emerged from those discussions. With the setting up of the Eastern Shipping Corporation, a purely Indian company, and the decision to reserve the coastal trade for Indian shipping, the proposals made by British shipping interests were not pursued. No negotiations in this behalf are being carried on at present.

THEFTS IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

***2684. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received about thefts in Railway workshops, particularly in Parel (G.I.P. Railway) workshop;

(b) if so, what articles have been reported to be stolen during the last twelve months; and

(c) the steps Government have taken, or propose to take, in order to prevent such thefts?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Reports of 12 cases of thefts during the last 12 months in the railway workshops and depots have been received. Out of these only one case of theft, which occurred on 5th February 1951, relates to the Parel Mechanical Depot. of the G. I. P. Railway.

(b) The articles reported to have been stolen during the last 12 months are, ball bearings Caprotti valve gear bearings, spares for Caprotti valve gear, bolts, peg-hats, screws, nails, drills, files, screw drivers and spanners, tools, electrical materials, two table fans, two sewing machines, two typewriters and 20 bars tin ingots and steel bars.

(c) The G. I. P. Railway has appointed a Departmental Committee to investigate into the theft at Parel. The matter has also been reported to the Police. Other Railway Administrations also appointed similar committees to investigate into the thefts which had occurred in their respective systems, and recommend steps to be taken to prevent similar thefts in future. In certain cases, the committees have recommended structural alterations to buildings, provision of expanded metal barriers, additional protective bars to windows and observation holes, telltale clocks for Watch and Ward staff, and police certification of a clean record of all Class IV staff. The recommendations are being implemented on one Railway, and are under consideration on other Railways.

टेलीफोन का अधिष्ठापन

*२६८५. **श्री आर० ऐस० तिवारी :** क्या संचरण मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) १९५० में लागू की जाने वाली "अपने टेलीफोन का स्वावित्व प्राप्त करो" योजना के अन्तर्गत लगाये गये टेलीफोनों की संख्या ;

(बी) कितने टेलीफोन जिनके लिये आवेदन पहले ही किया जा चुका है, लगाये जाने शेष हैं ; तथा

(सी) उन स्थानों के नाम जहां वह लगाये जा चुके हैं ?

Installation of Telephones

[*2685. **Shri R. S. Tewari:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones that have been installed under the "Own your telephone" scheme, which was launched in 1950;

(b) how many telephones, for which requests have already been made, are yet to be installed; and

(c) the names of the places where they have been installed?]

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) 7,633 (up to 13th March 1951.)

(b) 1,823 (on 13th March 1951.)

(c) (1) Amritsar
(2) Ahmedabad.
(3) Bombay
(4) Calcutta.
(5) Delhi.
(6) Kanpur.
(7) Madras.
(8) Nagpur.
(9) Hyderabad (Deccan).
(10) Surat.
(11) Rajkot.
(12) Meerut.
(13) Bhatinda (PEPSU).
(14) Indore.

Milk Powder and Baby Foods

*2686. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of firms or factories manufacturing milk powder and baby foods in India;

(b) the quantities, if any, of those foods of indigenous manufacture purchased by Government in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 respectively.

(c) the quantities of those foods imported from abroad in each of those years; and

(d) the landed cost per lb. of the imported articles, and the ex-factory prices of the indigenous products?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) There is one firm only in India, named M/S. National Nutriments Ltd., Calcutta, which manufactures milk powder. There is no firm or factory manufacturing baby foods.

(b) The Government made no such purchases during the years in question.

(c) The Government imported 4,000 cwts. of skimmed milk powder in 1948, for the Defence services. No imports were made for civil consumption by Government in 1948, 1949 and 1950. The quantity of milk powder imported into India through normal trade channels during these calendar years was as under:

Year.	Quantity in Cwts.
1948	63,253
1949	1,37,987
1950	2,14,655

The Government of India did not import any baby foods on their account. As regards commercial imports, the information is not readily available.

(d) The landed cost of skimmed milk powder imported during the year 1948 for the Defence Services came to about Annas nine per lb. Information regarding the landed cost of milk powder and baby foods imported through trade is not available. No information is available on prices of indigenous products.

Sugar and *Gur*

*2687. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what percentages of sugarcane have been diverted to *Gur*, making in the year 1949-50?

(b) What is the possible diversion in the year 1950-51?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) In sugar factory areas in Uttar Pradesh about 25 per cent. cane was diverted to *gur* making, and in Bihar about 10 per cent. Information regarding other States is not available.

(b) No information is yet available for the season 1950-51 but it is expected that there will be less diversion this year compared to last year.

Sugar Cane Cultivation

*2688. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether Government propose to reduce the acreage of land under the cultivation of sugar cane in the State of Bihar to increase the food-production there?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): No. The area under sugarcane in Bihar in 1949-50 was only 378,900 acres out of a cropped area of 29,131,682 acres, i.e. barely 1 3 per cent. Sugar and *gur* are essential food and sugarcane is a valuable crop, and the Bihar Government do not consider it desirable to reduce the acreage under this crop in order to increase food production.

National Highway Scheme

*2689. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what length of road is going to be completed, after Sambalpur, in the coming year, as per National High-Way Scheme?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): It is presumed the question relates to National Highway No. 6, the main Bombay—Calcutta Highway. About eight miles of new road between Sambalpur and Calcutta are expected to be completed in 1951-52.

Goods Handling Contracts

*2690. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the East Indian Railway awarded Goods Handling Contracts on tender basis in the years 1949 and 1950 for a specific term;

(b) whether fresh tenders have been invited on the expiry of the term, in the case of all goods handling contracts; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the term in case of Howrah Goods Depot has been further extended without inviting fresh tenders?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) Fresh tenders were not invited as contracts were for a period of two years only. These have been extended by another year.

(c) The term of the existing contract has not yet expired.

National Harbour Board

*2691. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether there is any scheme by the Bombay Port Trust to improve Princess and Victoria Docks?

(b) If so, what stage has it reached?

(c) Is the expansion of the harbour for providing more berths for steamers in the Madras Port Trust contemplated?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Yes. The Port Trust has sought Government's approval to the scheme and the matter is under consideration.

(c) Yes. A scheme for constructing a wet dock capable of accommodating four big ships is under consideration.

Shipping Rates Advisory Board Report

*2692. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether the Shipping Rates Advisory Board (Konkan Coast) have completed their inquiry?

(b) If so, when will their report be published?

(c) Has the report been submitted to Government?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). The Shipping Rates Advisory Board are continuing their inquiry, taking into account the results of the operation of the Konkan steamers during 1949-50 also, as requested by Government. Their report is expected to be received by Government by the end of April 1951, when the question of its publication will be considered.

Rice from China

*2693. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what amount of rice has already reached India from China under the recent Barter Agreement?

(b) What amount of jute has been exported to China upto this time under the above Agreement?

(c) Taking the price of jute articles into consideration that are to be sent to China in exchange of rice, what will be the cost of rice per maund that India is receiving from China in exchange?

(d) Is it a fact that, apart from the above Barter Agreement, China has

again offered to India 3 lakh tons of rice?

(e) If so, do Government intend to take that newly offered rice and if not, what are the reasons?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Arrivals of rice from China under the Barter Agreement are expected to amount to about 40,000 tons by the end of March, 1951.

(b) Upto the end of March, 1951 shipment of jute goods to China under the agreement are expected to amount to 10,500 tons.

(c) It will not be in the public interest to disclose this.

(d) China has offered for sale additional 50,000 tons.

(e) The terms of the offer are under consideration by Government.

SETTLEMENT OF RAILWAY CLAIMS

*2694. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Station Masters and Claims Inspectors have been authorised to deal with claims below the amount of Rs. 50 in the E. P. Railway?

(b) If so, how many such cases were dealt with by the Station Masters and Claims Inspectors out of the claims preferred in the year 1950?

(c) How many of those cases so dealt with went to Courts of Law and with what result?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) 741 during 1950.

(c) Nil.

RICE

*2436. **Shri Sardar Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union of Burma has a considerable exportable surplus of rice for the year 1951;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of Burma expressed their willingness to enter into a long term agreement for the supply of rice with the Government of India; and

(c) if so, when the Government of Burma made the offer and what action the Government of India took on it?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) It is understood that Burma's exportable surplus of rice in 1951 may amount to 800,000 to 1,000,000 tons.

(b) and (c). A long term trade agreement with Burma is at present under consideration. It is exepected that the question of rice supplies would also be covered by the proposed agreement.

MERGER OF MANIPUR

162. **Shri Saprawnga:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the leading political parties, including hill men of Manipur States are demanding merger of Manipur into the State of Assam, and whether any representation has been received to that effect by Government; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative what Government propose to do in the matter?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) We have received representation for the merger of Manipur with Assam from two associations of Naga hill tribes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to my statement in this House on the 16th March 1951 during the discussions on Shri Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava's resolution on Part 'C' States.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Saturday, 31st March, 1951

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Shri Kamath: Before we proceed with the questions, Sir, may I request that if the House is agreeable, Starred Question No. 2639 in today's list, about the ashes of Netaji Subhas Bose reported to be lying in a Japanese temple, might be given a little higher priority so that an oral answer may be given to that, not immediately, but a little later during the question-hour?

Shri Sidhva: I have no objection, but if this is a precedent then. . . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This won't be a precedent I am sure, but let us wait and see if we reach the Question in the ordinary course. If we don't reach it a short time before the question-hour is over, we will reconsider this matter.

CONFERENCE OF COMMERCIAL COUNSELLORS

*2615. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the commercial counsellors and advisers of Indian embassies in Western Europe recently met in a conference in London?

(b) If so, what were the chief points under their consideration?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes, Sir. The conference, however, was purely informal.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 4.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know to how many of our Embassies in Europe are Commercial Counsellors and Advisers attached, and how many of them were present in the conference?

Shri Mahtab: As many as ten representatives were present. All the following were present:

Commercial Adviser to the High Commissioner for India in London.

India Government Trade Commissioner, London.

Commercial Counsellor, Indian Embassy, Rome.

First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Prague.

Commercial Secretary, Indian Embassy, Paris.

Economic Adviser, Indian Military Mission, Berlin.

Commercial Secretary, Legation of India, Berne.

Commercial Second Secretary, Indian Embassy, Brussels.

Assistant Trade Commissioner London.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that some of these Commercial Advisers and Counsellors are highly critical of Government sending big officials from here for a short time for making purchases?

Shri Mahtab: I could not follow the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know if these Commercial Advisers have protested against high officials being sent for purchasing, over their heads.

Shri Mahtab: It was an informal conference and they discussed various questions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is this one of them?

Shri Mahtab: I don't think so. They did not mention anything about this question.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether these Commercial Counsellors are appointed in addition to the Trade Commissioner in the same Embassy? For example, in the High Commissioner's Office in London have we got a Commercial Counsellor apart from a Trade Commissioner?

Shri Mahtab: There are Trade Attaches attached in addition to these Trade Commissioners.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there a Commercial Counsellor in addition to a Trade Commissioner?

Shri Mahtab: I cannot say the exact position in all these cases. In some cases there are more than one officer, in some places there is only one officer, and in some others there is one officer for more than one place.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether in the Indian High Commissioner's office in London we are going to appoint another Commercial Counsellor in addition to what we are having today?

Shri Mahtab: That question does not arise with respect to this question which relates to the conference.

Shri A. C. Guha: What are the functions of the Commercial Counsellors?

Shri Mahtab: I would have to collect that information. This question is about a particular conference.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of officials sent abroad right now for making purchases over the heads of those Counsellors and Advisers of Supply Missions?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even that does not arise out of this question.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether they were specially appointed for this conference or they are permanent Commercial Counsellors?

Shri Mahtab: They are permanent officials. They met informally to discuss certain things.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to a question earlier the hon. Minister said he had no information whether the Commercial Counsellors were in addition to Trade Commissioners. Would he give the information later on ?

Shri Mahtab: I said they were not appointed specially for attending this conference. They were officers permanently posted there. They collected together for the conference.

Shri Sidhva: No, no. That is not my point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wanted a list of Trade Commissioners who were appointed.

Shri Mahtab: But that is not a matter which arises out of this question which relates to a conference.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether they considered the question of a single agency for all the European countries for advice in respect of trade matters?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are straying far away from the question. This question relates only to a conference of Commercial Counsellors.

INTERVIEWS BY CHIEF CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS

*2616. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any restrictions have been laid down on the grant of interviews to members of the public by the Chief Controller of Imports?

(b) If so, when were those restrictions imposed?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No, Sir, but there are certain regulations governing their interviews which are set out in this Ministry Public Notice No. 147-ITC(PN)/50, dated the 24th November, 1950, a copy of which is placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 5.]

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer given to (a) above.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What was the reason for imposing restrictions on the grant of interviews before the 28th November, 1950?

Shri Mahtab: The reason was that there were a large number of interviewers, and that has to be regulated.

EXPORTS

*2617. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the approximate values of our export trade for the months of September and October, 1950, separately?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Values of our export trade for the months of September and October, 1950.

I. *By sea and air*

	Exports Rs. *in Lakhs*	Re-exports Rs. *in Lakhs*
September, 1950	45,14	1,79
October, 1950	54,80	3,39
II. *By land*		
September, 1950	3,13	..
October, 1950	1,72	..

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the value of the increase in our export trade over the corresponding period of 1948-49?

Shri Mahtab: Those figures have been published, but they are not with me now.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether there is a policy of giving rebate on import duty on articles that are used for some industry the manufactured product of which is exported, and, if so, to what extent has this policy stepped up our export?

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member puts a specific question I shall collect the information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does that question about policy arise out of this question which deals only with the value of imports and exports?

MANUFACTURE OF CARS AND RADIO BATTERIES

*2618. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories manufacturing cars and radio batteries in the Indian Union;

(b) their total productive capacity and the number of batteries manufactured by these factories during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the number and value of cars and radio batteries imported into India during the aforesaid three years; and

(d) how the Indian-made batteries compare with the foreign batteries in respect of their quality and price?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) There are twelve factories manufacturing the accumulator type of batteries which are used both in motor vehicles and radio sets.

(b) Total productive capacity is 297,000 per annum. Actual production in numbers during the last 3 years was as follows:

1948	*1949*	*1950*
110,000	107,065	187,123

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

(d) Favourably.

STATEMENT

Import figures in numbers are not available separately for car and radio batteries. The value of imported batteries other than flash light batteries for the financial years 1948—50 and up to November, 1950 was :

1948-49 ..	Rs. 14,00,297
1949-50 ..	Rs. 35,86,293
April to November, 1950	Rs. 12,72,431.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know why these factories are not able to produce to their maximum productive capacity?

Shri Mahtab: I admit that the point has not been investigated, but we are taking steps to investigate these points not only with regard to this industry but with regard to other industries also.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know by what time India is likely to be self-sufficient in the production of these batteries?

Shri Mahtab: As the hon. Member knows, by the time our factories produce to installed capacity the major problem will be solved. But apart from that the import of batteries at present is restricted to types not manufactured in the country. At present we are importing only those types which are not manufactured here. As soon as local manufacture comes up to the country's requirements there will be no further imports.

Dr. Parmar: How many motor parts are manufactured in the country and how many are imported?

Shri Mahtab: This question is with regard to batteries.

Dr. Parmar: The question relates to cars as well.

Shri Mahtab: It relates to car batteries and radio batteries.

Shri Chaliha: May I know the reason for low production? Is it due to want of machinery?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is under investigation. What is the good of asking that question? He says not only with respect to this industry but with respect to other industries also he is making investigations.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether these factories referred to in the question merely assemble different parts or they also manufacture the parts of car and radio batteries?

Shri Mahtab: Some of them are assembling factories, some of them are manufacturing factories.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether locally made batteries cannot compete with imported batteries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are able to stand on their legs.

SPORTS GOODS

*2619. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the amount of sports goods exported from India in the years 1948 to 1950 to (i) hard currency areas; and (ii) soft currency areas?

(b) Are those goods standardised and graded before export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

STATEMENT

Value of sports goods exported from India in the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 to Hard currency areas (including dollar areas) and Soft currency areas.

	1947-48	*1948-49*	*1949-50*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Hard currency areas (including dollar areas)	2,93,639	20,885	34,053
Soft currency areas (including sterling areas)	6,20,523	2,58,837	4,52,123
*Pakistan	..	3,805	551

*This falls in soft currency areas.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether export of sports goods falls short of the demand in hard currency areas?

Shri Mahtab: It may be so. At present the production in India is to the extent of about Rs. 10 million worth of sports goods. Of this, about five per cent. is exported. As soon as production here rises, we shall be in a position to export more.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any arrangements have been made for standardisation of sports goods and whether any Sectional Committee has been appointed for this purpose?

Shri Mahtab: It appears that the hon. Member knows that the Indian Standards Institute has appointed a Sectional Committee to go into this question.

TRADE AGREEMENT *re* SHIPPING

*2620. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether in our trade agreement with countries like Poland, Finland and Egypt any clause about shipping (compulsory use of ships belonging to a particular country to be used in the trade) has been included;

(b) what are the countries which have insisted that a certain percentage of their trade with India must be carried by ships belonging to them; and

(c) whether in our trade agreement containing any such condition in favour of a foreign country's shipping, similar conditions in favour of Indian shipping have also been included?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (c). There is no clause in any of our trade agreements providing for the compulsory use of ships belonging to any particular country. Suitable provisions have, however, been inserted in a number of trade agreements to ensure that India as well as the countries concerned will provide all facilities that they can reasonably accord to secure that the ships of the contracting parties carry as large a proportion as possible of goods exported from or imported into India under the terms of the agreements.

(b) None.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it not a fact that in the year 1949 the whole of our gunny export to Egypt and most of our cotton import from Egypt had to be compulsorily carried in Egyptian ships?

Shri Mahtab: There is no compulsion anywhere in the trade agreement. There might have been compulsion of circumstances.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government considers it necessary that for the welfare of Indian shipping part of India's export and import trade should be reserved for Indian ships?

Shri Mahtab: As I have said, we have been taking care to insert in some of our trade agreements a clause in the interests of Indian ships. For instance, I shall read out the provision in agreement with Australia.

"Government of India will appreciate it if the Government of Australia will provide all facilities that they can reasonably accord to enable Indian ships to carry as large a proportion as possible of the goods that enter into trade between India and Australia."

Dr. M. M. Das: So far as the coastal trade is concerned, is any portion reserved for Indian ships?

Shri Mahtab: That is a different question. It is also not my subject. It belongs to another Ministry.

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): During the last few weeks, I have answered this question at least three or four times.

Shri Veerabahu: May I know in view of the changed conditions and the difficulty in securing shipping space if it is not desirable that no such clause is included in the agreements with the other countries?

Shri Mahtab: It is a counter suggestion. We took into consideration all the aspects and we thought that this was in the best interests of the country.

SUBSIDISED SCHEME

*2621. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the raw materials and what quantities thereof have been imported into India during the year 1950-51 under Subsidised Scheme of Government?

(b) What is the total value of the subsidy thus given?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Under the Subsidy Scheme, 66,000 bales of cotton and 38,000 tons of steel were imported during 1950-51.

(b) The amount of subsidy paid on cotton and steel is Rs. 115.23 lakhs and Rs. 21.4 lakhs respectively.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government is going to contribute to the scheme of subsidised imports this year also?

Shri Mahtab: That has not yet been decided.

Dr. M. M. Das: What are the factors that are taken into consideration in determining whether the subsidised scheme of imports should be adopted in respect of some particular raw materials?

Shri Mahtab: With regard to cotton, when it was found last year that prices of foreign cotton were rising steeply, it was thought in the interests of the handloom weaver that 66,000 bales of cotton should be purchased exclusively for the manufacture of yarn for the handloom industry. The steel scheme is a permanent scheme. As the House knows, there is a fund known as the Equalisation Fund. It is a self-adjusting fund. Whatever is the difference between the landed cost and the control price is met from that fund. This will continue as it is till the foreign price is equal to the control price here.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is there any means adopted by Government to realise the whole or part of this subsidy?

Shri Mahtab: The subsidy in respect of cotton is a gift. It is taken out of the general revenues. The steel subsidy, as I said, is a self-adjusting scheme. It is not met from general revenues, but it is met from the Equalisation Fund which has been created for the purpose.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that this fund is collected by increased prices of steel manufactured in our country?

Shri Mahtab: The Equalisation Fund is created out of the mean between the foreign prices and the local controlled prices and it is really intended to bridge the gap between the foreign price and the control price here.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: May I know what amount was given as subsidy per bale of cotton over and above the local price?

Shri Mahtab: The subsidy was not given over and above the local prices. The rate of subsidy on cotton ranges from Rs. 225 to Rs. 237-8-0 per bale of 400 lbs. Subsidy paid during 1950-51 amounts to Rs. 1,75,23,441-7-0.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)

*2623. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the hon. Minister (ii) the Public Servants of his Ministry; and (iii) the non-official public travelling on the business of, or connected with the work of the Ministry, in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): A statement containing information in respect of items (i) and (ii) of the question is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 6.]

Information in regard to item (iii) is not available since such expenditure is not booked separately in the accounts but forms part of the total expenditure on delegations of which the non-officials are members.

Any attempt to give separate figures for journeys in or outside India would involve a scrutiny of each individual travelling allowance bill and the result will not be commensurate with the time and labour involved.

As the Ministry of External Affairs came into existence only after India had attained her Independence, no figures can be given for the year 1946-47.

Prof. K. T. Shah: The figures given in the statement indicate that there is a tendency for the expenditure to increase—at least under parts (i) and (ii). May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to this and whether any steps are being taken to reduce the travelling allowances and halting allowances paid to officials as well as representatives of the public travelling on the business of the Ministry?

Dr. Keskar: Does the hon. Member refer to travelling and daily allowances abroad or in India?

Prof. K. T. Shah: Both in India and abroad.

Dr. Keskar: The travelling allowances in India are governed by general rules with regard to which the External Affairs Ministry has no hand.

With regard to travelling allowances outside India it is governed very much by the prices prevailing in that country. Prices have gone up very much in every country, especially after the war, with the result that Government is obliged to revise the travelling and daily allowances in every country from time to time.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Is it a fact, Sir, that a part, if not the whole, of the travelling allowances of our Delegations in connection with the United Nations Organisations is borne by those Organisations?

Dr. Keskar: That is correct, in the sense that for the General Assembly of the United Nations the cost of journey from India and to India is paid by the United Nations Organisation; also, the journey from and to India of certain members of the permanent commissions of the United Nations of which India is a Member are also paid by the United Nations Organisation.

Prof. K. T. Shah: In that case, how does the increase in prices in foreign countries affect the portion that we have to pay, apart from these?

Dr. Keskar: The daily allowances will naturally be governed by the price index and the general prices prevailing in any country. I think it has nothing to do with the journey to and from.

Prof. K. T. Shah: In that case do I understand that the daily allowance varies with the varying price index in each country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are we not entering into a very detailed argument?

Dr. Keskar: My hon. friend has tried to exaggerate my answer. What I said was that our Government, or any other Government, is obliged from time to time—and not every time a delegation goes—to change the daily allowance wherever necessary, when the prices in that particular country have risen or fallen. But that does not mean that every time a delegation is sent, or somebody is sent out, he should get the daily allowance which is different from the previous one.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know when a Minister is travelling in India, whether, apart from the travelling allowance, he draws daily allowance too?

Dr. Keskar: Ministers' travelling and daily allowances are governed by definite rules which are available to hon. Members.

SURPLUS STORES AND EQUIPMENT

*2624. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the **Minister of Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to lay on the Table

of the House a statement showing the total value of:

(i) the Stores and Equipment found to be useless, unserviceable, lost, or declared "Surplus" to requirements, in 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(ii) the realisations out of Stores declared to be "surplus", damaged or otherwise unserviceable, and so put up for disposal and disposed of, to other Ministries of the Government of India, other State Governments, or to the public; and

(iii) the stores lost, or otherwise found unavailable on stock taking, or any other similar check, in 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when ready.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Notice of this question had been given several weeks ago and I would like to know when we may expect the information to be collected and made available to us.

Shri Buragohain: The question covered a very wide range. At one time the hon. Speaker thought that the labour involved would not be justified and the question was accordingly disallowed. But on reconsideration the question has been admitted and we were informed only on the 26th of this month. The question relates to all the departments and all the Ministries and attached offices under them. It will naturally take some time before the information could be collected.

Prof. K. T. Shah: This is a serious matter, Sir. Is it the Speaker who got the impression that it involved too much time or was it the Ministry who informed the Speaker that it would take too much time to be allowed for answer? This raises a very important question. I have met with this sort of answer before. But on enquiry it was found that it was the Ministry which had suggested this and therefore the Speaker was only a mouthpiece of the Ministry. I should like to know whether this is a way of avoiding an answer, or whether it is a genuine difficulty.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): On a point of order, Sir. Is any hon. Member entitled to say that the Speaker is the mouthpiece of the Ministry?

Prof. K. T. Shah: I only wanted to enquire whether it was the Speaker on his own authority who thinks that the time involved would be too much, or whether it was the Ministry who led the Speaker to think so.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In any case, it is rather unfortunate that the hon. Member who is a good parliamentarian to have said that the Speaker is a mouthpiece of the Ministry. I do not think he means it, as he has said just now.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I never intended that: if I have been misunderstood I should like to correct myself. I only wanted to know whether the Ministry conveyed to the Speaker that it will take too much time or...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that the hon. Member wanted to know was whether the initiative came from the Speaker or from the Ministry. Is not this Ministry maintaining a register of unserviceable articles at the end of each year—apart from collecting them today? This refers to unserviceable, useless or declared surplus to requirements articles in 1947-48. It is not as if they have to be collected today. Are they not making any check year after year? Is there no register maintained of those articles which have been declared to be useless? That information must be readily available with the Ministry.

Shri Buragohain: May I explain the position, Sir. When this question came, it was felt that it covered all the Ministries and the attached offices of those Ministries. It was not specifically mentioned that it only related to this Ministry. Although a reference was made, as suggested by my hon. friend, to the Parliament Secretariat, certain steps were taken to collect the information. But they are not complete. Apart from the Disposals, the question covered departments like Printing and Stationery, Central P.W.D., etc. So, the figures had to be collected from these departments also. Certain materials were collected, but in the meanwhile the Parliament Secretariat informed us that the question has been disallowed. We have been informed again that the question has been admitted and steps are being taken to collect further information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Far from any question being allowed or disallowed, is it for the House to understand that this Ministry does not maintain a register showing the articles surplus to requirements, etc.? Evidently the Ministry has not got that information at all.

Shri Buragohain: They are to be collected from the various attached offices.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it not done in the regular course of business of administration year after year?

Shri Sidhva: That was exactly what I wanted to know. Do not the Departments keep a regular register of useless, unserviceable, or damaged articles. As the House knows Sir, in the Khareghat report, it is stated that for want of a proper stock register lakhs and lakhs of rupees worth articles have been lost. I want to know whether the Departments of Works, Production and Supply maintain such a stock register.

Shri Buragohain: I have already stated that information is being collected.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His question is simple—as to whether stock books are maintained by the Departments of the Ministry.

Shri Buragohain: I believe stock books are maintained.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I expect hon. Ministers to lay all the information before the House. It is not a matter for wrangling or debate. The question is simple. The Minister in charge must be able to answer whether a stock book is maintained or not. I hope that hereafter care will be taken to see that sufficient information is made available to the House.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Sir, may I request you to request the hon. Minister to expedite the information?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sure he will do so.

Shri Buragohain: Yes, Sir.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

*2625. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether any Hindu displaced persons are still coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union?

(b) If so, what was the number of such displaced persons every week during the month of November and December, 1950 and January, 1951?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). It has not been possible to maintain statistics separately of Hindu migrants coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union. Figures have, however, been maintained of all Hindu passengers, including migrants, ordinary passengers and others, coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union, mostly by train. A statement showing the number of Hindus who came to the Indian Union from East Bengal every week during the months November, 1950 to January, 1951, is laid on the Table.

STATEMENT

The number of Hindus who came from East Bengal to the Indian Union during the months of November and December, 1950, and January, 1951, week by week.

For the week ending	Number
4th November, 1950	51,041
11th November, 1950	45,428
18th November, 1950	41,931
25th November, 1950	51,897
2nd December, 1950	45,679
9th December, 1950	45,931
16th December, 1950	48,483
23rd December, 1950	46,342
30th December, 1950	46,891
6th January, 1951	42,876
13th January, 1951	35,447
20th January, 1951	35,522
27th January, 1951	42,250
Total	5,79,718

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the Government have got any report of some Hindus still coming as refugees from East Bengal?

Dr. Keskar: There are some Hindus coming as refugees but, as I said, it will not be possible to give the exact percentage. I may inform my hon. friend that from time to time experimental checks are made to find out the percentage of refugees. But as these percentages differ very considerably from day to day it will be very difficult to find out an average. Sometimes it might go up to 25 or 30 per cent., sometimes it is only 6 or 8 per cent.—I mean from what answers are given by the passengers themselves.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I infer that even now there is almost a continuous flow of refugees coming from East Bengal?

Dr. Keskar: Well, Sir, a number of refugees are even now coming. There is no doubt about it. Whether it is a big flow or not I cannot say.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : اس عرصے میں کوئی ہندو اپنے گھروں کو واپس بھی گئے ہیں ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Have some Hindus also returned to their homes during this period?]

डा० केसकर : जी हां गये हैं। ६८०८९२ ईस्ट बंगाल वापस गये, नवम्बर से ले कर जनवरी सन् ५१ तक।

[**Dr. Keskar:** Yes, some have returned. 6,80,892 Hindus returned to their homes during the period November, 1950 to January, 1951.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا انکے واپس جانے کی وجہ یہ ہے کہ یہاں پر ان کا انتظام نہیں ہو سکا یا کہ وہاں پر حالات اچھے ہو گئے ہیں ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Have they returned because arrangements could not be made for them here or because conditions have improved there?]

डा० केसकर : सरकार ने जो कोशिश की थी कि जो लोग वहां से चले आये हैं वह वापस चले जायें, यह उस का नतीजा है कि वह वापस गये हैं।

[**Dr. Keskar:** It was the endeavour of the Government that those who had come from there should go back and it is the result of that that they have returned.]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Was not this matter debated the whole of yesterday? I will proceed to the next question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, will you allow me to put one question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. The whole day was spent on this yesterday.

IMPORT AND EXPORT FROM AND TO BURMA

*2626. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what are the commodities that India generally imported from and exported to Burma?

(b) What is the balance of trade at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The main commodities imported from Burma are foodgrains, mineral oils and teak-wood and those exported to Burma are cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, tobacco (raw and manufactured), oils, iron or steel and coal.

(b) For the 9 months ending December, 1950 we had a favourable balance of trade to the extent of Rs. 5,70,67,000.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether Burma has begun exporting rice to other countries, the rice that used to come to India?

Shri Mahtab: That I do not know. But so far as newspaper reports go I understand that they are exporting rice and other things to other countries.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the balance of trade between Burma and India in 1949 and what amount of foodgrains were imported in 1949?

Shri Mahtab: In 1947-48 the total value of trade was of the order of Rs. 24 crores. In 1948-49 it rose to Rs. 30 crores. But in 1949-50 it has dropped by Rs. 3 crores, that is, to about Rs. 27 crores. But I have not got the details of the imports and exports.

Shri Chaliha: Is it a fact that from the Shan States they are willing to export rice to Assam by the Stillwel Road and, if so, what is the quantity?

Shri Mahtab: These points will be discussed by the Trade Delegation which is now going to Burma and when we enter into a trade agreement all these points will be discussed.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether it has been agreed with the Indian Tea Association in Assam to export 2,500 tons of rice from the Shan States *via* the Stillwel Road?

Shri Mahtab: So far as my information goes, no particular agreement has yet been arrived at.

Shri Bharati: I understand that a Trade Delegation is shortly to be sent to Burma. If so, may I know what are its terms of reference? Is it to deal with the import and export of these commodities from Burma?

Shri Mahtab: The main term of reference is to continue the pattern of trade as it was and as it has been existing for the last several years. That is to say, our import and export trade will be of the same pattern as it has been for the last so many years.

Shri Bharati: The hon. Minister has said that rice, foodgrains, timber and other things are to be imported. Can he give us a break up of the value of the commodities of import and export for the present year?

Shri Mahtab: If the hon. Member wants to know the break-up of the figures for this year I can supply him later on. The details are not here with

me. So far as the trade agreement goes our intention is of the nature that I have already suggested.

Shri Bharati: Does Government propose to have a long-term arrangement in regard to trade with Burma?

Shri Mahtab: That will depend on the agreement of both parties. My own desire is that it should be a long-term arrangement.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are these decreases in regard to import from Burma or entire trade with Burma due to disturbances in Burma or to any other reason?

Shri Mahtab: It is due to unsettled conditions in Burma as they are existing today, and mainly in the matter of import of rice and teak-wood there are considerable difficulties.

Shri Bharati: When is the Trade Delegation going?

Shri Mahtab: I think in a week or two.

Shri Bharati: May I know the personnel of the delegation?

Shri Mahtab: The names have not been decided upon yet.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is it a fact that because of the 45 per cent. revenue duty Indian manufacturers of engineering goods are not able to export these goods to Burma and to the South East Asian countries where there is a lot of demand for these engineering goods?

Shri Mahtab: So far as exports to Burma are concerned, Burma is not a good market for engineering products.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What about the other countries?

Shri Mahtab: We are now discussing our trade with Burma, and that is the position with regard to Burma.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: May I know whether the delegation that is going to be sent will be an official delegation or a non-official delegation?

Shri Mahtab: In addition to the officials we are thinking of adding a few non-officials.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: In regard to imports from Burma, are any steps being taken to import more timber in view of the shortage of teak-wood timber in this country?

Shri Mahtab: There is a question on the import of Burma teak coming later on.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Anyhow it may be answered. We may or may not reach it. All right, next question.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY

*2627. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what articles do we get from Hungary under the trade agreement with that country?

(b) What articles of our produce do they require in exchange?

(c) What are the terms of the agreement entered with Hungary?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Starred Question No. 1340 asked by Shri Sivaprakasam on the 9th February, 1951 and reply thereto.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is a short answer, the hon. Minister may read it.

Shri Mahtab: "(a) to (c). Trade letters were exchanged between the Governments of India and Hungary on the 20th January, 1951. In these letters provision has been made to the effect that applications for licences for import of goods from Hungary into India would be treated as favourably as applications for import from any other country of the soft currency group in accordance with the licensing procedure in force from time to time, saving any exceptional commitments in any particular trade agreement. As regards imports into and exports from Hungary, that country has agreed to treat India as a trade agreement country for reasonable quantities of the commodities mentioned in the Schedules attached to the letters. No quantities have been specified in the Schedules. A copy of the letters and the Schedules referred to has been placed in the Library of the House."

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know if there is any agreement in respect of shipping for carrying on this trade and if so, what ships are carrying them?

Shri Mahtab: There was some discussion as regards shipping with Hungary. This is the summary of the conclusion of that discussion. The Hungarian representative stated that the utilization of Indian shipping as far as possible to carry cargo in respect of Hungary's foreign trade with India and other countries in the East and Far East will be considered sympathetically.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

SCHEDULED CASTE FARMERS IN PAKISTAN

*2628. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Scheduled Caste farmers who want to come to India are being detained by Pakistan; and

(b) what steps are taken by Government to repatriate them?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). There is no ban on the migration of Scheduled Caste farmers from Pakistan to India, though there are certain difficulties and impediments, such as a ban on the movement of cattle from Pakistan to India.

श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या यह सच है कि जो हरिजन किसान पाकिस्तान रह गये हैं उन को अब भी इस्लाम धर्म ग्रहण करने के लिए मजबूर किया जाता है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that the Scheduled Caste farmers left behind in Pakistan are still being forced to embrace Islam?]

Dr. Keskar: I would like to know whether the question the hon. Member is putting is with regard to the whole of Pakistan or certain parts of Pakistan, because I am not able to give a general reply.

Shri Balmiki: Sind and Baluchistan in West Pakistan.

Dr. Keskar: There have been some complaints with regard to the treatment of Scheduled Castes in certain parts of West Pakistan, but we have not been able to get them verified.

श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या यह सच है कि सन् ४८ से पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट से जो लिखा पढ़ी हुई है उस का कोई नतीजा नहीं निकला ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that no result has come out of the correspondence that took place with Pakistan since 1948?]

Dr. Keskar: Sir, it is true that with regard to evacuation of Scheduled Castes from West Pakistan to India, there has been correspondence going on with the Pakistan Government and we have not been able to get across to India successfully the major bulk of Scheduled Castes, who are there. The situation is different with certain parts. I might inform the House that the greatest difficulty that we have had is from Pakistan-Punjab province, where our information is that quite a large percentage of the Scheduled Castes people would like to come away, but they are impeded from coming to India by various means, though officially there is no ban in their coming back to India.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether on the border of Sind and Cutch there are nearly 1,50,000 Harijan farmers and others who want to go to Cutch even by foot but are not allowed because they possess certain animals? If so, what steps have Government taken in this direction even though representations have been made since 1949?

Dr. Keskar: It is true that a large number of Scheduled Caste farmers in Sind would like to come away to India, and they are mainly not able to come because the Pakistan Government does not allow cattle to move away to India and the farmers cannot come without their cattle. There has been some correspondence going on, but we have not been able yet to get the agreement of the Government of Pakistan for allowing cattle to be brought to India.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the number of Scheduled Castes now remaining in Western Pakistan? Has the hon. Minister any idea?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice of the question because a number of them have come this side, though the number is not considerable. It is quite possible that quite a number of people have moved in West Pakistan itself from one part to another. Even then, I am not so sure that we will be able to get reliable figures now.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether in a future conference that may take place between India and Pakistan in this respect, will they take up this question and expedite it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a suggestion.

Shri Sidhva: I want to know, Sir, whether this subject will be taken up.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is said it is on the agenda.

Dr. Keskar: It is being continuously taken up and these questions are always discussed at all the conferences.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What are the impediments that are being placed in the way of these people coming to India—I mean the Scheduled Caste farmers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The impediment is the cattle.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Are there any more impediments other than cattle?

Dr. Keskar: The impediments are many. As I said, officially there is no ban. I am talking of Punjab-Pakistan. Our information is that the local villagers and the local officials put every sort of impediment so that they will not leave their villages. It is not possible for me to give in detail what are the impediments, but the result is that they are afraid to go away from that particular area; they feel that their lives or their property might be in danger.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: May I know whether our High Commissioner in Pakistan is in contact with the Harijans there? If so, what is the information that he has in his possession?

Dr. Keskar: The information that I have just given is due to the contact that our High Commissioner has had with certain Scheduled Caste people. In spite of the ban, it does happen that some Scheduled Caste people trickle to the headquarters in Lahore and that is how we come to know of the situation prevailing in the districts.

Co-operative Societies

***2629. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of co-operative societies State-wise formed in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 up to date among Harijan displaced persons; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to inculcate the habit of co-operation among Harijan displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):

(a) 1949-50 ... 17
1950-51 ... 4

State-wise statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Loans are given to Co-operative Societies in preference to individuals. Social Workers and officials preach the virtues of co-operation and help in the organization of co-operative societies.

STATEMENT

Number of co-operative societies formed in 1949-50 and 1950-51 among Harijan displaced persons.

State	No. of Co-operative Societies formed during	
	1949-50	1950-51
Delhi	3	1
West Bengal	..	1
Bombay	2	2
Punjab	12	..
Total :	17	4

श्री बाल्मीकी : इन कोआपरेटिव सोसायटियों में गवर्नमेंट का कितना रुपया लगा हुआ है ?

[Shri Balmiki: What amount of money have Government given to these co-operative societies?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इन की संख्या २१ है और कर्ज़ा भी दिया गया है लेकिन मैं नहीं कह सकता कि कुल कितना रुपया इन्वाल्व है।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Their number is 21 and loans have also been given to them. But I cannot give out the total amount of money involved therein.]

श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या इन कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज़ को गवर्नमेंट की तरफ़ से कुछ कर्ज़ॉ दिया गया है?

[Shri Balmiki: Have some loans been given to these co-operative societies by the Government?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : जी हां, दिया गया है

[Shri A. P. Jain: Yes Sir. loans have been given.]

श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में जो कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज़ बनाई गई हैं वह क़र्ज़ और गवर्नमेंट की दूसरी सहायता के बग़ैर दम तोड़ रही हैं ?

[Shri Balmiki: Is it a fact that the co-operative societies formed in Delhi are breaking up due to non-availability of loans and other facilities from the Government?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मुझे तो ऐसी कोई इत्तला नहीं है, लेकिन अगर ऐसी कोई बात है और उस की इत्तला मुझ को दी जायेगी तो मैं उस को देखूंगा।

[Shri A. P. Jain: I have no such information but if that is so and I am informed of the facts I shall look to it.]

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या दिल्ली के अलावा पार्ट सी० स्टेट्स में डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स के लिए कोई कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटियां बनाई

गई हैं और उन के लिए गवर्नमेंट ने क्या क्या किया है ?

[Shri Dwivedi: Have co-operative societies for displaced persons also been formed in Part C States beside Delhi and what the Government have done to help them?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : यह प्रश्न तो केवल हरिजन डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स से संबन्धित है। हरिजन डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स के लिए दिल्ली के सिवा सैंट्रल एडमिनिस्टर्ड एरिया में कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटियां नहीं बनाई गई हैं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: This question relates only to Harijan displaced persons. Co-operative societies for the Harijan displaced persons have not been formed in any Centrally Administered Areas except Delhi.]

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know how many of them are agricultural co-operative societies and how many multi-purpose societies?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Minister got figures to show this?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have got the details, but it will take a little time to read them.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : ان هریجن ڈسپلیسڈ پرسنس کی کوآپریٹو سوسائٹیز کو جو قرضہ دیا گیا ھے کیا گورنمنٹ اس پر کچھ سود لیتی ھے -

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Do the Government charge any interest on the money given as loan to these co-operative societies meant for Harijan displaced persons?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : गवर्नमेंट जितना कर्ज़ा देती है सब पर सूद लेती है। कर्ज़ के मानी यही हैं कि उस पर सूद लिया जाये।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Government charge interest on all the money they give out as loan. Indeed, giving of loans mean that interest should be charged thereon.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کتنا سود لیا جاتا ھے ؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: What is the rate of interest charged?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : आम तौर से केंद्रीय गवर्नमेंट ३ फ़ी सदी या साढ़े तीन फ़ी सदी सूद स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से लेती है, इस से ज़्यादा नहीं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Usually the Central Government charges 3 per cent. or 3½ per cent. rate of interest from the State Governments and not more than that.]

श्री बी० के० पी० सिन्हा : क्या हरिजनों और ग़ैर हरिजनों के लिए अलग अलग सहयोग समितियां बनाई जाती हैं ?

[Shri B. K. P. Sinha: Are separate co-operative societies formed for Harijans and non-Harijans?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : सहयोग समितियां तो इसी लिहाज़ से बनाई जाती हैं कि जो एक क़िस्म के आदमी हों और जिन का एक क़िस्म का काम हो और वह मिल जुल कर उस में काम करें। ऐसी दशा में यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि दोनों के लिए यह समितियां अलग अलग हों।

[Shri A. P. Jain: The co-operative societies are formed for the purpose of enabling similar types of people and those engaged in the same type of profession to work together. As such it becomes imperative that the co-operative societies for both should be separate.]

Status of High Commissioners

***2630. Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to raise the status of High Commissioners in various countries including Britain;

(b) if so, when Government are likely to take a decision on this question; and

(c) what is the present status enjoyed by the Indian High Commissioner, Britain as compared to the Indian Ambassadors in other foreign countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). There is no question of raising the status of High Commissioners, because their status is exactly the same as that of

Ambassadors and they enjoy the same privileges and immunities. Except for the designation, there is no difference between them.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Is it a fact that Sir Mirza Ismail recently appointed U.N. representative in Indonesia is enjoying the status of an Ambassador in a foreign country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question is not relevant to the main question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the significance of the difference between these two designations?

Dr. Keskar: High Commissioner is the designation given to the representative of a Commonwealth country and Ambassador to the representative of a foreign country.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is there any proposal to change the designation of High Commissioner to that of Ambassador?

Dr. Keskar: There is no such proposal.

Shri Sidhva: In the one but the last Commonwealth conference which took place at London the British delegate stated that they intended to change the designation of High Commissioner in Britain to that of Ambassador and our Prime Minister stated that in that event we shall also have to consider the question. What has happened to that proposal?

Dr. Keskar: I am not aware of any such definite proposal to change the designation of High Commissioner to Ambassador. But my hon. friend probably is referring to the status of the High Commissioner which was then still in question. Some of the Commonwealth countries on technical grounds were hesitating whether the High Commissioner should be given the same status as an Ambassador; but that has been settled now.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What does the rank of a "Minister in a foreign country" signify?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Oh, we are going away from the main question. We now go to the next question.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Sir, I have one more question on question No. 2630.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may reserve it for some future occasion. Now we go to the next question.

SEMI-OFFICIAL DEPUTATION FROM WEST PAKISTAN

*2631. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a semi-official deputation from West Pakistan is to visit Delhi to discuss measures to recover abducted women from both India and Pakistan; and

(b) what are the places which this Mission will visit in India?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) A non-official delegation, from West Pakistan, visited India during the second week of February, 1951 and discussed, with the authorities concerned, their proposals to expedite the recovery of abducted women and children both, in India and Pakistan.

(b) They visited Amritsar, Jullundur, Patiala, Ambala and Delhi.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know.....

Shrimati Durgabai: Sir, the answer was inaudible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Does the hon Member desire that the answer should be read out again by the hon. Minister?

Several Hon. Members: Yes Sir.

Shri Gopalaswami: (a) A non-official delegation, from West Pakistan, visited India during the second week of February, 1951 and discussed, with the authorities concerned, their proposals to expedite the recovery of abducted women and children both, in India and Pakistan.

(b) They visited Amritsar, Jullundur, Patiala, Ambala and Delhi.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Has any approach been made to Government by non-officials in India to afford them the necessary facilities to reciprocate the same official visit from Pakistan?

Shri Gopalaswami: If the hon. Member refers to a suggestion made by the delegation for a corresponding delegation from India to Pakistan the answer is in the affirmative.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : اس ڈیپوٹیشن کے میمبروں کے نام کیا ہیں ؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: What are the names of the members of this deputation?]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो सब आ कर चले गये।

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They have all gone back now.]

Shri Rathnaswamy: Can the hon. Minister please state the probable date when this deputation will visit Pakistan?

Shri Gopalaswami: I don't think we have yet come to any decision on that matter.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : میرے سوال کا جواب نہیں ملا - میں نے پوچھا تھا کہ انکے نام کیا تھے -

[Giani G. S. Musafir: My question has not been answered. I had asked their names.]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जो लोग आये थे वह सब चले गये।

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All those who had come have now gone back.]

Shri Gopalaswami: I can remember only the name of the leader of the delegation and that was Mr. Sadique Hussain.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They remained a number of days here; probably the hon. Member was not in Delhi then.

Shrimati Durgabai: What were the actual measures suggested in order to expedite the work and will the same measures apply to the work in East Bengal also?

Shri Gopalaswami: The suggestions to expedite the recovery work, which were made by the delegation were these: first, that there should be an Indo-Pakistan conference of Ministers to reach quick and final decisions; second, that the date should be fixed for the surrender of the abducted persons after which criminal proceedings would be instituted against the abductor: thirdly, abducted women after recovery should be transfered immediately to camps in their own countries and not kept in transit camps in the country of recovery; fourthly, that police officers who do valuable work should be rewarded and then, that high officials of the States should try and influence public opinion by propaganda, over the radio, in the Press or otherwise, and lastly, the number of guides to be sent from one country to the other to help the recovery of persons should be increased. It was understood that the Pakistan Government's reactions should first be obtained to these suggestions and that we would receive a communication officially on this subject. So far we have not received it.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I invite your attention to my Starred Question No. 2639 and also to the clock which shows it is already 11·40?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought in the ordinary course we would reach question No. 2639. But as it is, we have time only for one more question. If it is the wish of the House that we should take up that question now, I have no objection.

Several Hon. Members: Yes. We may take up that question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If that is the general wish of the House as a special concession today which ought not to be quoted in future and having regard to the nature of the question I will allow that question to be taken up now.

Shri Sivan Pillay: But Sir, that will be against Rule 40 of our Rules of Procedure.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is open to the House always to give precedence to any question; and to that extent we have suspended the Standing Order. This is a very exceptional case.

ASHES OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

*2639. **Shri Kamath:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to bring over to India the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, reported to be lying in a temple in Japan; and

(b) whether any communication to this effect has been reeeived from Major-General J. K. Bhonsle, Chairman, Indian National Army Advisory Committee?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The Government of India have received a communication in this regard from Major-General J. K. Bhonsle and are in correspondence with him with a view to obtaining detailed information. The Government have also asked their Representative in Tokyo to verify this report and obtain fuller details.

Shri Kamath: Sir, have our representatives in Tokyo or elsewhere in South East Asia, in their periodical communications to Government conveyed reports circulating in those regions about Netaji being alive?

Dr. Keskar: Our representatives once or twice referred to rumours in various countries of South East Asia—but not circulating among the people. The reports were to the contrary—that the general belief is he is not alive.

Shri Kamath: Have Government obtained final and irrefutable confirmation of the death of Netaji Subnas Chandra Bose?

Dr. Keskar: Government is not in a position to have any irrefutable proof of this.

Shri Kamath: Sir, what was the last source or communication from which Government obtained news or confirmation of Netaji's death?

Dr. Keskar: The question regarding the communication or source from which Government received confirmation or news of his death is one which I am not in a position to reply off-hand. I will have to go into dates and other things and certainly if the hon. Member would table another question I would.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But is not this question inconsistent with part (a) of the question? The scope of the question is very narrow and there is no use going beyond that; otherwise I would not have allowed this question getting preference over other questions. The question is quite simple, whether Government propose to take steps to bring the ashes over in memory of the deceased hero?

Shri Kamath: But as Government not got definite information.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has some information and he has put this question and the answer is either "yes" or "no".

Very well, the question-hour is now over.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

The Bihar Land Reforms Act and Amendment of Constitution

Shri Kamath: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special Bench of the Patna High Court has held the Bihar Land Reforms Act *ultra-vires* of the Constitution; and

(b) whether there is truth in the Press report that Government will move for amendment of the Constitution in the current Session of Parliament?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Shri Kamath: Has the Bihar Government decided to appeal or has the Centre advised the Bihar Government to appeal to the Supreme Court against the decision of the Patna High Court?

Dr. Keskar: My information as that the Bihar Government is going to appeal.

Shri Kamath: Will the Government await the decision of the Supreme Court before amending the Constitution?

Dr. Keskar: The question is under consideration of the Government. I think very soon Government will be in a position to make a pronouncement with regard to this matter before the House.

Shri Kamath: The answer to part (b) of the question is a monosyllabic 'Yes'. That is to say, there is truth in the Press report that Government will move for amendment of the Constitution. Now he says that the matter is under consideration.

Dr. Keskar: The question is under consideration as to what amendments are to be put before the House. With regard to that, very soon the Government would put before the House detailed proposals.

Shri Kamath: In view of the fact that several States have enacted legislation in this regard which has been challenged in the respective High Courts, is the Government going to move for piecemeal amendment of the Constitution, or is it going to await the verdict of all the High Courts, because it is quite likely that various articles of the Constitution may be questioned?

Dr. Keskar: It is very difficult to anticipate what the High Courts are going to decide. The whole thing, in all its aspects is under the consideration of the Government and very soon we will put forward before the House definite proposals with regard to this question.

Shri Kamath: Are they going to await the verdict of all the High Courts, or are they going to move for amendment straightaway?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has answered that question already. He cannot wait till all the High Courts decide on all the fundamental rights.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government has constituted a Committee for the purpose of suggesting amendments to the Constitution and if so, who are the Members of that Committee, and what is the time fixed within which they have to make their recommendations?

Dr. Keskar: There is no formal Committee of the Government. There

is a Cabinet Committee which is considering the question of the amendments that are to be put forward before the House for consideration. I think it is too premature to say anything with regard to this matter, further.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know which are the particular articles of the Constitution that are sought to be amended?

Dr. Keskar: I am sorry, I am not in a position to answer that question.

Production of Yarn, *Dhoties* and *Sarees*

Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to his statement made on the 8th March, 1951 on shortage of cloth and yarn and state:

(a) what quantity of *dhoties* and *sarees* was produced during the month of February, 1951 as a result of the direction given to mills in the beginning of February, 1951 for the production of *dhoties* and *sarees;* and

(b) the quantity of yarn produced in the months of January and February 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Direction for increasing the production of *dhoties* and *sarees* was communicated to the Mills by the Textile Commissioner on the 16th February, 1951. Since Mills require at least a fortnight to switch over from running varieties to other varieties, full effect of the direction would be visible only from April, 1951 onwards. It is expected that from April onwards the total monthly availability of *dhoties* and *sarees* would be 40,000 bales as against the average monthly availability of 33,000 bales during the latter half of 1950.

(b) The total quantity of free yarn packed by all the Mills in India was 45,692 bales in January and 61,715 bales in February, 1951 and includes yarn packed for export against preban commitments and government contracts.

Shri Sidhva: When will these 40,000 bales be available in the market for sale?

Shri Mahtab: In April.

Shri Sidhva: Is it definite, Sir? Because last time he said that they will be available in February, I want to know whether this is definite.

Shri Mahtab: I strongly protest. My hon. friend is definitely wrong. I have never stated anywhere that *dhoties* will be available in February. I have always said that orders were issued in February.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether any special quota of yarn has been issued to handloom weavers for the manufacture of *dhoties* and *sarees*?

Shri Mahtab: Handloom manufacture is not controlled. Yarn is issued to handloom weavers and production depends on them. There is control on production.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has any additional yarn been issued for the purpose of meeting the deficiency?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to mills: the hon. Member will kindly address himself to the question on hand.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is contemplated to increase the price of these *sarees* and *dhoties* or superior cloth, from the 1st of April?

Shri Mahtab: The question of prices is under consideration now.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: In view of the fact that yarn is absolutely unavailable in Assam, do Government propose to send any quota in the first part of April to Assam?

Shri Mahtab: The supply of yarn to all the States has been steadily increased from January onwards. I think they will receive the same quota, as I have said here once, in April, as they used to get previously.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: For the last two months, yarn was absolutely unavailable in Assam, in the rural parts.

Shri Mahtab: So far as Assam is concerned, I distinctly remember that a special quota has been given to Assam on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, especially to Manipur State.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now we will proceed to the Adjournment Motions.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I ask one question, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: From yarn, we are going to *dhoties;* there is no limit to such questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Revision of Yarn and Cloth Prices

*2382. **Shri Sardar Singhji:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the schedule of cloth and yarn prices is proposed to be revised upward shortly for the second time?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons that have induced Government to shift their ground so soon after the announcement of the prices on the 20th January, 1951?

(c) Is it a fact that the prices announced on the 20th January, 1951 were not fully based on the formula evolved by the Tariff Board and the prices now proposed approximate more to that formula?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, why was the Tariff Board's formula not fully taken into account in fixing the prices announced on the 20th January, 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The prices have already been revised.

(b) to (d). The cloth and yarn prices were revised for the period January-March, 1951, on the 20th January, 1951, in accordance with the formula recommended by the Tariff Board, allowing an increase of Rs. 150 per candy on the prices of new crop of cotton of 1950-51. For certain varieties of cloth, this increase in the prices of cotton was not taken into consideration as certain types of Indian cotton *viz.*, Cambodia, Karungunni Westerns, Vijay, Surat, etc., which are used for the manufacture of these varieties of cloth do not come into the market before the 31st March, 1951.

The Industry pointed out that the last year's crop of cotton would carry them only upto the middle of January, 1951 and that for these types of cloth, they have to mix new cotton with old cotton, sometimes to the extent of 100 per cent. The Government conceded to this position in consultation with the Cotton Textile and Cotton Control Committee and revised the prices accordingly with effect from the 1st February, 1951 in accordance with the formula suggested by the Tariff Board. The formula of the Tariff Board is invariably followed in fixing the prices of cloth and yarn.

American Emergency Food Commission

*2614. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an American Emergency Food Commission for India has been formed; and

(b) if so, whether it has had any correspondence with the Government?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) At the instance of Mrs. Dorothy Norman, a Committee known as the American Emergency Food Committee was started in December last. The object of this Committee was to mobilise public opinion in the United States of America in favour of allocation of foodgrains to India.

(b) There has been no direct correspondence with Government, but the Committee has kept in touch with our Embassy in Washington.

Stipends to Displaced Students

*2622. **Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state what amount of money per year is being given by way of stipends to displaced students to prosecute further studies?

(b) What are the conditions which make an applicant eligible for stipends?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Scheme for giving stipends for higher technical and general education was brought into force in July, 1950. Up to the end of the current financial year, a sum of about Rs. 21·5 lakhs will have been given to the displaced students for the prosecution of their studies.

(b) A statement showing the conditions which make an applicant eligible for stipend is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX annexure No. 7.]

Lands Acquired for Rehabilitation Purposes

*2632. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of lands acquired for the purpose of rehabilitation and the acreage of lands on which houses have been and are being built in and around Delhi;

(b) what is the approximate number of persons who may be accommodated in the houses so far built;

(c) the number of persons who will remain to be rehabilitated after giving accommodation in these colonies; and

(d) how many persons will be accommodated in the houses built by individuals on Government plots?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 2628 acres have been acquired. Actual area built upon so far is not known.

(b) About 74,350.

(c) The number of Displaced Persons in Delhi is estimated at about 5 lakhs. 1,90,000 are reported to be living in evacuee houses; about 1,00,000 are likely to be accommodated in the houses and tenements which have been constructed and which are under construction. Apart from those who are living in rented houses, the number of quatters and of those who are in unauthorised occupation of Government quarters is between 20 to 30 thousand families.

(d) About 1100 plots have been allotted to Displaced Persons for construction of houses. This will provide accommodation for about 6600 persons at an average of 6 persons to a family.

Loans to Baroda

*2633. **Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased state:

(a) the total amount granted by the Centre as relief and loans to Baroda, Saurashtra and Cutch in the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 for rehabilitation of displaced persons; and

(b) what number of displaced persons have been settled by now in the above-mentioned areas?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 8.]

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the reply given by me to starred Question No. 1312 by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh on the 9th February, 1951.

Residential Accommodation for M.P.s

2634. **Shri R. Khan:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works Production and Supply** be pleased to state when Government propose to supply self contained residential accommodation to all the Members of Parliament?

(b) What is the general policy in this respect?

(c) Will Government give (i) the number of the Members of Parliament, who are having self contained residential accommodation; (ii) the number of those, who are sharing accommodation with other Members and (iii) the number of Members staying in the Constitution House and Western Court respectively?

(d) How many rooms are at present occupied by officers of the Government of India in the Constitution House and Western Court?

Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (b). The proposal is to provide residential accommodation for 80 per cent. of the Members of Parliament under the new Constitution, out of whom, 224 will have hostel accommodation and the rest self contained accommodation, as shown below:

Hostel Accommodation:

(i) Western Court	41
(ii) Constitution House	183

Self Contained accommodation:

(i) Bungalows	108
(ii) Suites with kitchenettes in the Constitution House.	9
(iii) New flats under construction.	250

100 of the new flats under construction are expected to be ready by July, 1951 and the remaining 150 by October, 1951.

(c) (i) 69

(ii) 82

(iii) Constitution House: 69
Western Court: 27

(d) Constitution House: 24
Western Court: 46

Import of Burma Teak

*2635. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities in which Burma Teak was imported into the country during each of the past ten years;

(b) whether it is a fact that in recent years a considerable fall has taken place in the import of Burma Teak;

(c) if so, the reason for the same;

(d) whether it is a fact that Burma Teak is superior in quality to the teak grown in various parts of the country; and

(e) whether the possibility of growing Burma teak in suitable parts of the country has been examined and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 9.]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Disturbed political conditions in Burma have prevented exploitation of teak in that country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir, but the results have not been very encouraging.

IMPORT OF FRESH AND DRIED FRUITS

*2636. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quantities and monetary value of (i) fresh and (ii) dried fruits of all kinds imported into and exported from India during each of the past five years?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 10.]

TRADE WITH TIBET

*2637. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the various commodities that are exchanged in cash or kind between India and Tibet; and

(b) the total volume and value of trade each way in 1948, 1949 and 1950 respectively?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement containing this information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 11.]

(b) No separate figures for Tibet alone are available. A statement showing total volume of trade each way with Tibet, Bhutan and Sikkim, in each of the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, is, however, laid on the Table of the House. Figures of values are not available.

STATEMENT

India's trade with Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan.

	Quantities in maunds		
	1948	1949	1950
Imports	88,268	76,468	65,462
Exports	271,260	280,652	1 5,970

CLOTH RETAIL PRICES

*2638. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the retail cloth dealers in Kutch State are authorised to charge 5 per cent. to 6 per cent. more in price to consumers than the maximum retail price marked on the cloth; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SUB-COMMITTEE OF HAND-LOOM COMMITTEE

*2640. **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee had been formed under the Hand-loom Committee;

(b) if so when it was formed?

(c) how many meetings of this Committee have been held; and

(d) if not, why not?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The Standing Handloom Committee of the All India Cottage Industries Board was re-constituted in July, 1950. The present Standing Handloom Committee has not constituted any sub-Committee.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

COALFIELD LABOURERS (RATION)

*2641. **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what is the ration that the labourer in the Coalfields gets and at what price?

(b) Does he get the ration for himself or also for his adult and child dependants?

(c) Does the labourer get in addition to the ration ¼ (one fourth) seer of rice free for every day of attendance?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The coalmine workers receive basic ration at the following scale per week:

Basic Foodgrains	Scale per week
Worker	2 Sr. 10 Ch.
Adult dependant	2 Sr. 10 Ch.
Each child dependant	1 Sr. 5 Ch.

Rice is supplied at the rate of 3 Srs. per rupee and wheat at the rate of As. 6 per seer.

In addition to this each family receives dal equivalent to ¼ of the basic ration at the rate of 6 Srs per rupee.

(b) The worker gets ration both for himself or herself, and adult and child dependants.

(c) Yes.

SODA ASH AND CAUSTIC SODA

*2642. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total annual demand in India in respect of soda ash and caustic soda?

(b) What is the latest installed capacity for production of these articles and what was the actual production during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(c) How do the cost of production and selling price of Indian soda ash and caustic soda compare with those of foreign products?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) (i) Soda Ash—1,24,000 tons

(ii) Caustic Soda—63,500 tons

(b)

	Installed capacity (*in tons per year*)	Production (*in tons*) *1948*	*1949*	*1950*
(i) Soda ash	54,000	29,150	17,918	43,790
(ii) Caustic Soda	19,068	4,820	6,303	10,846

(c) The cost of production of both the chemicals produced in foreign countries is less than that obtaining in India. The selling price of the Indian chemicals, however, compares favourably with that of the imported varieties.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT

*2643. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the question of extending the date of implementation of the Minimum Wages Act of 1948 by another year was referred to the Planning Commission and if so, what are the proposals of the Commission in this matter?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Only the question of the fixation of minimum wages in agriculture was referred to the Planning Commission. The Commission recommended that option should be given to State Governments to fix minimum wages for agricultural workers in such limited areas and at such times as they considered feasible.

DISPLACED MUSLIMS IN RAJASTHAN

*2644. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation consisting of Shri Qazmi, Member of Parliament, S. Sajjan Singh, M.L.A. Punjab State and some other gentlemen waited upon him on the 5th August, 1950, and put before him several grievances of the displaced Muslims of Matsya Union (Rajasthan State);

(b) whether S. Sajjan Singh referred to above handed over to the hon. Minister a representation regarding the grievances of the displaced Muslims;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was ordered by Government about the complaints contained in the representation;

(d) what was the nature of the complaints made;

(e) to what extent the complaints narrated therein were found to be correct; and

(f) what action was taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The general complaint was that the original lands and houses of Meos and other Muslims of Alwar and Bharatpur district of Rajasthan were not restored to them.

(e) and (f). A commission was appointed by the Government of Rajasthan at the instance of the Government of India to go into the entire question of resettlement of Meos and other Muslims as well as of displaced persons in Matsya. The Commission has since submitted its report. The decisions taken on the recommendations of this Commission are contained in the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th March, 1951, a copy of which was placed on the Table of the House, in connection with Starred Question No. 2529 by Shri D. S. Seth which was answered on the 26th March, 1951.

NON-RESTORATION OF LAND TO DISPLACED MUSLIMS

*2645. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases were brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister by S. Sajjan Singh, M.L.A., (Punjab) *vide* his letter No. 944 dated the 24th July 1950, and No. 1021 dated the 4th August 1950, (Registered A.D.), wherein it was stated that certain Muslims at Ramgarh town and several other places of Alwar district were restored their lands but were refused restoration of their houses occupied by non-muslim displaced persons;

(b) whether any cases of Govindgarh and Ramgarn Tehsils of Alwar district were brought to the notice of Government by the aforesaid gentleman stating that lands were partly restored to the displaced Muslims and their lands, allotted to the non-Muslim displaced persons, were refused to be restored to them; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, under what provision of law the houses and the lands belonging to the displaced Muslims have been refused to be restored?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, but only letter No. 1021 dated the 4th August, 1950 was received.

(b) Yes.

(c) According to the law prevailing in the States of Alwar and Bharatpur at the time of disturbances in 1947 all the lands deserted by the Muslims lapsed to the States. Subsequently on the merger of these States into Matsya Union, these lands were according to law, treated as Evacuee Property. Evacuee Property can be restored under Section 16 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, to the owner subject to such terms and conditions as the Custodian may think fit to impose. As a matter of policy it has been decided that where displaced persons have been settled on evacuee property they will not be generally disturbed. In the case of Meos where restoration of original lands is not possible on account of settlement of Displaced Persons they are being given equivalent lands elsewhere. As regards *katcha* houses belonging to displaced Meos, financial assistance in the form of grants for the construction of new houses will be given in cases where it is not possible to restore them. In respect of *pukka* houses it has been decided that their Meo owners will be entitled for restoration of them even though they are occupied by Displaced Persons.

PROPERTIES OF DISPLACED MUSLIMS (RESTORATION)

*2646. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agency has been set up in Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan States by the Government of India to entertain and dispose of applications by displaced Muslims for the restoration of their properties; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Under section 16 of the Evacuee Porperty Law all applications for restoration of evacuee property are to be entertained and displaced of by the Custodian of Evacuee Property. Custodians have been appointed in Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan States.

(b) Does not arise.

FIRE IN JHIRRIPATKA SETTLEMENT

*2647. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how many shops, belonging to displaced families in the Jhirripatka Displaced Persons' settlement on the Kamptee Road in Madhya Pradesh were gutted by a fire on the 9th March, 1951?

(b) What was the cause of the fire?

(c) What is the loss estimated and what help have Government rendered to the sufferers?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

YARN FOR MADHYA PRADESH

*2648. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the quota of yarn for Madhya Pradesh is expected to be increased for the month of April 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): 105,000.

The yarn quotas fixed for the various States in December, 1948 would be revised, if necessary, on receipt of the information from the State Governments regarding the number of handlooms called for by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay. With the measures already taken to

increase yarn supplies to handloom industry, it is expected to give larger allocation to Madhya Pradesh from April, 1951 onwards.

RAJAPALAYAM COTTON

*2649. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a variety of long staple cotton known as 'Co. 4 B 40' also known as 'Rajapalayam' is grown in Ramanathapuram District in Madras State?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that merchants import inferior varieties into the area and pass off such varieties as 'Rajapalayam' Cotton?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to preserve the purity of the Rajapalayam variety?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Powers have been delegated to the Madras Government under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 which will enable them to counteract this tendency if any.

ALIGANJ QUARTERS

*2650. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the number of Safai Quarters in the area known as Aliganj in New Delhi?

(b) How many of these quarters are provided with flush system latrines and how many are not yet provided?

(c) Are these quarters being provided with electricity?

(d) If not, when do Government propose to get these quarters electrified?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain) (a) 345.

(b) 195 quarters are provided with flush system latrines and the remaining 150 quarters are without such a system.

(c) and (d). The matter is under consideration.

ORISSA COLLIERIES

*2651. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state how many of the colliery owners in the State of Orissa have provided Pithead Baths in their collieries?

(b) What amount was spent for Labour Development works in the year 1950-51 and on what items?

(c) How many accidents in handling explosives have been reported from these collieries?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Two colliery owners have provided Pithead Baths in their collieries. In a third colliery Pithead Baths are almost complete and in a fourth one they are under construction.

(b) Rs. 1,11,432 upto the 28th February, 1951. A statement showing the items on which this amount was spent is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 12.] In addition to the sum of Rs. 80,000 already spent for the construction of labour quarters in Industrial areas, an additional sum of Rs. 5,20,000 is expected to be spent for the same purpose during the current financial year.

(c) Two—one fatal and serious—during 1950.

SALT

*2652. **Shri Narayana Deo:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the scarcity of common salt in the country for human and animal consumption?

(b) What steps are being taken to encourage the producers to increase production?

The Deputy Minister of Works Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) The production of salt in 1950 was 713 lakh maunds as against a total demand of 684 lakh maunds. Government are aware of some temporary scarcity of salt in some parts of the country due to insufficient wagon supply on metre gauge system and similar other reasons. Immediate steps are taken in all such cases to meet the situation.

(b) The production is on the increase. A statement showing the steps which have been taken to increase production is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 13.]

YARN SUPPLY

*2653. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the quota of yarn fixed for Bombay in November, 1948?

(b) What was the percentage of yarn supplied to Bombay in September 1950 and in February, 1951?

(c) What was the quota fixed for Madras, Bengal and Orissa in November, 1948?

(d) What was the percentage of yarn supplied to Madras, Bengal and

Orissa in September, 1950 and February, 1951?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) A monthly yarn quota of 10,885 bales was fixed for Bombay in December, 1948.

(b) 37 per cent. of the above yarn quota was supplied to Bombay in September, 1950 and 46 per cent. in February, 1951.

(c) In December, 1948, Madras's quota was fixed at 22,500 bales per month, Bengal's at 5,285 bales per month and that of Orissa at 3,710 bales per month.

(d) In September, 1950, the percentages of yarn supplied to Madras, Bengal and Orissa were 82 per cent., 78 per cent. and 62 per cent. respectively and in February, 1951 the percentages of offers were 83 per cent., 78 per cent. and 63 per cent. respectively.

चमड़े कीड़े वस्तुएं निर्मित करने वाली विदेशी फैक्टरियां

*२६५४ **श्री खापर्डे** : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) विदेशी सार्थों की भारत में जूते एवं चमड़े की वस्तुएं बनाने वाली फैक्टरियों की संख्या ।

(बी) क्या इन सार्थों ने सरकार से कोई करार किये हैं ;

(सी) यदि हां, तो उक्त करारों की अवधि तथा इन सार्थों के नाम ;

(डी) इन फैक्टरियों में उक्त सार्थों द्वारा प्रस्थापित की गयी मशीनों में विनियोजित पूंजी की परिमात्रा ;

(ई) इन फैक्टरियों द्वारा निर्मित वस्तुएं केवल भारत में ही विक्रय की जाती हैं अथवा उनकी मांग आने पर विदेशों को भी निर्यात की जाती हैं; तथा

(एफ) इन फैक्टरियों द्वारा निर्मित जूते एवं चमड़े की वस्तुओं को आयात करने वाले देशों के नाम ?

FOREIGN FACTORIES MANUFACTURING LEATHER GOODS

[*2654. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shoes and leather goods manufacturing factories in India owned by foreign firms;

(b) whether these firms have entered into any agreements with Government;

(c) if so, the period covered by such agreements and the names of these firms?

(d) the amount of capital invested by these firms on machinery erected in these factories;

(e) whether the goods manufactured by these factories are sold in India alone or they are also exported to foreign countries on demand; and

(f) the names of those countries which import these shoes and leather goods manufactured by these factories?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) Four factories are owned by three companies registered in India but employing wholly or partly foreign capital.

(b) and (c). No.

(d) The information is not readily available.

(e) Goods manufactured by these factories are also exported.

(f) Mainly East African territories, the Middle East, the Far East and the neighbouring countries like Burma, Ceylon, etc.

तेल

*२६५५ **श्री खापर्डे** : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) भारत में मशीनों की सहायता से कितने मन मूंगफली, सरसों, तिल तथा जवरा का तेल निकाला जाता है;

(बी) भारत में बैल परिचालित कोल्हुओं की संख्या तथा प्रति वर्ष उनके द्वारा निकाले जाने वाले तेल की मात्रा ;

(सी) क्या अन्य देशों को भी इन तलों का निर्यात किया जाता है; तथा

(डी) यदि हां तो निर्यात किये जान वाले तेल की मात्रा;

OILS

[*2655. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) how many maunds of mustard, groundnut, sesamum and jawra oils are extracted in India with the help of machines;

(b) the number of bullock-driven oil presses in India and the quantity of oil extracted by them per year;

(c) whether these oils are exported to other countries also; and

(d) if so, the quantity of oil exported?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

गलीचे

*२६५६ **श्री खापर्डे** : (ए) क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री भारत में विभिन्न राज्यों के उन गांवों के नाम बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे जहां पर कि गलीचे बनाने की फैक्टरियां स्थापित हैं तथा उन पर कितनी पूंजी विनियोजित की गयी है ?

(बी) १९४८, तथा १९५० म निर्यात किये गये गलीचों का मूल्य क्या था तथा किन देशों को उनका निर्यात किया गया एवं कितना निर्यात कर प्राप्त हुआ ?

(सी) इस प्रकार की फक्टरियों की संख्या में वृद्धि हो रही है अथवा कभी ?

(डी) क्या गलीचे बाहर से भी आयात किये जाते हैं ?

(ई) यदि हां तो उक्त आयात का क्या मूल्य है ?

(एफ) उक्त आयातित गलीचों के मूल्य भारत में निर्मित गलीचों के मूल्य को तुलनात्मक क्या है ?

CARPETS

[*2656. **Shri Khaparde:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the names of those villages of the various States in India where carpet-manufacturing factories are located and the capital invested on them?

(b) What was the value of the carpets exported in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and to which countries were they exported and how much export duty was realized?

(c) Is the number of such factories increasing or decreasing?

(d) Are carpets also imported from abroad?

(e) If so, what is the value of such imports?

(f) How do these imported carpets compare with those manufactured in India in respect of their prices?]

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) The names of the villages and the capital invested on the carpet-manufacturing factories are not known. A statement showing the names of the principal carpet producing centres in the different States is, however, laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement I).]

(b) A statement showing details of exports is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement II).]

Presumably the hon. Member refers to "woollen carpets" only. Export duty is not levied on them.

(c) Increasing.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement III).]

(f) Imported carpets are costlier than Indian carpets.

POWER ALCOHOL

158. Shri P. Basi Reddi: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have accorded permission to certain firms in the Madras State for manufacture of power alcohol?

(b) If so, what are the firms?

(c) What is the price offered to them by Government and have they agreed to it?

(d) When are they expected to commence production of power alcohol?

(e) When do Government propose to extend the Indian Power Alcohol Act to the Madras State?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The Government of India have agreed to the undermentioned distilleries modifying their plants for manufacture of power alcohol:

(i) The Vizag Commercial Corporation Ltd., Vishakhapatnam.

(ii) The K.C.P. Ltd., Vuyyuru (Kistna District).

(iii) Messrs. Party & Co., Madras 1.

(iv) The India Sugars and Refineries Ltd., Hospet (Bellary District).

(c) The question of prices will arise only when the factories produce power alcohol. No assurance has been given to them by the Central Government. The State Government have, however, been advised that prices higher than those being paid at present to other manufacturers will not be agreed to.

(d) In the next two years.

(e) The Central Act will be extended to Madras when arrangements for the admixing of petrol with power alcohol are complete.

GRANTS TO STATES

159. Shri M. L. Gupta: Will the Minister of **Works, Production and Supply** be pleased to state the basis of fixing grants to State Governments on account of Administration of Petroleum and Explosive Acts under Grant No. 36?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): An amount equal to the fees realised on licences issued by the District Authorities under the rules framed under the Indian Explosives Act, 1884 and the Petroleum Act, 1934, is paid to the State Governments concerned as payment for the agency functions carried out by them in connection with the administration of the said Acts.

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS

160. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some textile mills have given notices to close their mills on the 1st April, 1951, as a protest against the revised cloth and yarn prices recently announced by the Government of India; and

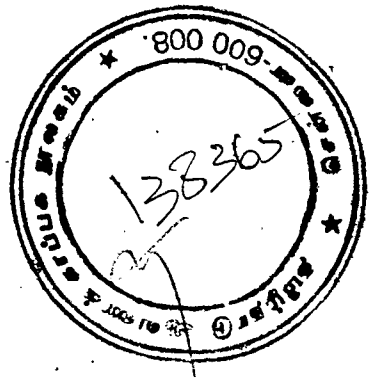
(b) if so, how many mills have given such notices?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): (a) and (b). The prices of cloth and yarn have been revised again with effect from 1st February, 1951. No complaints have been received against this so far.

HOARDED YARN

161. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to seize the hoarded yarn in Bombay and have it released to the consumers in the different States where there is acute shortage?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): There is no hoarded yarn in Bombay. All free yarn available from the Mills in Bombay or elsewhere is distributed monthly to various States in accordance with the quotas fixed for each case.



V2, 31 (N5)
N5)-B