

(c) how they are disposed of at present; and

(d) the average daily cost of such disposal?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No.

(b) About 900 tons of calcium carbonate sludge will be produced daily when the factory is in full production. About 300 tons of ash and some quantity of coke breeze will also be left behind as waste matter when the factory is in full production.

(c) The calcium carbonate sludge is being stored and will ultimately be utilised for cement manufacture. The ash is dumped at the ash siding provided at the marshalling yard. The question of utilising the usable portion of this ash for stowing in collieries is under consideration. Small quantities of coke breeze are burnt with coal in the Power House.

(d) The cost of disposing of the ash is estimated at Rs. 650 per day.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know, Sir, what the plan of the Government for utilisation of these products is and whether any steps have been taken by Government for implementing that plan?

Shri K. C. Reddy: As I have already answered, so far as the use of calcium carbonate sludge is concerned, an agreement has been entered into with the A.C.C. whereby the whole quantity will be purchased by them for the manufacture of cement. As for the ash, Sir, it is dumped at present, and a portion of the ash is proposed to be utilised for a particular purpose, as I have already mentioned.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know, Sir, whether any calculation has been made to find out how the utilisation of these products will affect the cost of production of ammonium sulphate?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The utilisation of these products will ultimately result in a reduction of the cost of production.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know, Sir, by what percentage the cost of production will be reduced, by the utilisation of these products?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I want notice to answer that question.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, whether ammonia is one of the by-products, and if so, what use is being made of it?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have mentioned here only three by-products; as regards any additional item, I shall have

to go into the question, before I could answer.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: May I know, Sir, what the by-products are and the value of the by-products that we are using?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I want notice.

INDIAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW

*588. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the Indian Embassy in Moscow in 1951-52; and

(b) whether our officers at the Embassy in Moscow are free to move about in that country?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Rs. 11,54,020.

(b) There are a number of restrictions on the movements of foreigners including members of the diplomatic staffs in the Soviet Union. Some of the Soviet Republics and a number of districts and towns are prohibited to foreigners. Travelling beyond 25 miles from Moscow is permitted only after previous intimation has been given to the authorities.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether it is imperative on the part of our Embassy in Russia to employ a certain number of Russians who are named by the U.S.S.R. Government?

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether it is an obligation on us to employ Russians?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am sure there can be no such obligation. It may be convenient or not, but there can be no obligation to that effect.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, how many Russians are there in the employment of our Embassy at Moscow?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I imagine, very few, doormen and the like. I have not got the exact information with me at present.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether our officers at the Moscow embassy ever noted that the Press and the Radio in U.S.S.R. have been consistently publishing and broadcasting distorted and false news about India with a view to spreading anti-Indian propaganda?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question is out of the scope of the main question.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know, Sir, whether there are any such restrictions on the Soviet Ambassador in Delhi?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact that our Embassy in Moscow has not had the liberty to employ any Russians that we want?

Mr. Speaker: I think that question has already been answered by the hon. the Prime Minister who has put it negatively in a different form:

Shri Altekar: May I know, Sir, whether there are any such restrictions in other countries?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: On whom?

Mr. Speaker: His question appears to be whether there are restrictions only on Indian embassies or similar restrictions there are on other embassies as regards the movements of the embassy members.

Shri Altekar: May I know, Sir, whether there are similar restrictions as have been imposed upon the members of our Embassy in Russia, on other countries?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No restrictions have been imposed on our Embassy as such; those restrictions are for all foreign embassies. I understand, that in certain countries notably the United Kingdom and the U.S.A., as a measure of retaliation, similar restrictions have been placed on the Soviet Embassies there.

Prof. Mathew: May I know, Sir, in the western half of Europe, whether there are any such restrictions as we have in the U.S.S.R.?

Mr. Speaker: That has already been answered. The hon. Member has perhaps not caught the answer; he may refer to the proceedings.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Have any instructions been given to our Embassy staff to make a study of the Soviet administrative system, in general and their method of dealing with the Opposition in particular.

Shri Gadgil: May I know, Sir, whether the treatment given by the Government of India to embassies here is on a reciprocal basis, or whether a uniform treatment is being given to all the embassies in India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Generally speaking, it is both uniform and reciprocal. There may be minor exceptions, as in the particular instance to which the question relates, in regard to freedom of movement and travel. There are restrictions which I mentioned earlier, in Moscow for all foreigners; so far as we are concerned, we have imposed no restrictions. Here it is certainly not reciprocal, and there is a difference.

BALANCE OF TRADE

*589. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) our balance of trade position with non-sterling areas during the period July to December, 1951; and

(b) our balance of trade position with other soft currency areas during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). I take it that in part (a) of the question reference to "Sterling" (and not "Non-Sterling") areas is intended. On this assumption, a statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 43.]

MEDICINES (IMPORT)

*590. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what was the value of foreign medicines imported into India in 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):

	Rs. (lakhs)
1950-51 993.15
1951-52 1,514.83

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, what is the country from which we import the largest quantity of medicines?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Are there any restrictions still on the imports, or is this the result of removal of restrictions on the import of medicine?

Shri Karmarkar: As my hon. friend is doubtless aware, some of the imports were placed on the O.G.L. No. 23, while some of the medicines, were on a restricted basis, but a fairly liberal one, so far as the latter period was concerned.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Are there any restrictions on any drugs imported

into India now, or have they been completely removed?

Shri Karmarkar: The volume of imports is necessarily restricted in the case of certain drugs, on foreign exchange considerations. In respect of some other drugs, there was an O.G.L. 23 which still continues to be in force at the time.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is there any quota fixed for the year 1952-53 and if so what is it?

Shri Karmarkar: As my hon. friend doubtless knows, the quota fixed for 1952 was announced on 15th January, and the quota fixed for the latter half of the year will be announced on the 15th June.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: Has it come to the notice of the Government, that many Indian drugs manufactured here are sold under foreign labels?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member refers to spurious drugs or to drugs sold under foreign labels?

Shri Karmarkar: The attention of Government has been drawn to cases of spurious drugs like 'Gripewater' for instance. There was a time when attempts were made in this country to fabricate that medicine and sell it under foreign label. Action also was taken in that case.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, what action have the Government taken against those people who have been caught?

Shri Karmarkar: As my hon. friend knows, those who are caught are tried.

IMPORTS *

***591. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the value of imports into India from various countries in the years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Is there any quantity fixed for 1952?

(c) If so, what is it?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):

(Figures in crores of Rs.)

(a) 1949 ...	*Rs. 6.64·14 (Provisional).
1950 ...	Rs. 5.44·86 (Provisional).
1951 ...	Rs. 8.63·82 (Provisional).

* Excludes land borne trade with Pakistan in 1949.

(b) and (c). Quantum of imports is fixed in each case having regard to foreign exchange position and local production.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In view of the adverse balance of trade, is it proposed to restrict imports in the current year?

Shri Karmarkar: The matter is under our consideration at the moment.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if there has been an abuse of the facility of importing completely knocked-out cars from foreign countries as personal luggage?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, by 'abuse' my hon. friend perhaps means that in the past it was our policy to admit as luggage what were called home delivery cars especially from the sterling area. In view of the representations of automobile manufacturers in the country, we have restricted that privilege to a large extent at the moment.

INDIA STORES DEPARTMENT, LONDON

***592. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the actual expenditure incurred during 1950-51 on the maintenance of the India Stores Department, London, and what was the departmental charges for services rendered in each year?

(b) Are these departmental charges for services rendered fixed on any percentage basis?

(c) If not, what is the basis of these charges?

(d) What is the value of transaction done through the India Stores Department, London in the above years?

(e) What is the proportion of the Indian employees to the total number of employees in this Department?

(f) What is the total monthly salary of the Indians and non-Indians?

(g) Are the transactions entered into by the Stores Department in London examined by audit?

(h) If so, are there any serious objections raised by the auditor?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The actual expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the India Store Department in London was —

Financial year 1950-51... £255,108—
(Rs. 34,01,440).

Financial year 1951-52... £314,661—
(Rs. 41,95,480).