Newspaper Circulation Figures

*376. Shri A. V. Raghavan: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers proved to have given palpably false statistics about their circulation in the year 1960;

(b) whether Government will cause their names to be published;

(c) what action Government have taken against them for misusing the newsprint; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange involved as a result of the misuse of newsprint?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) In the case of 61 newspapers, discrepancies of a major nature were noticed in respect of circulation figures given by them for the year 1960.

(b) Their names are being given by the Registrar of Newspapers in his Report for the year 1962 which is due to appear shortly.

(c) The results of the investigations undertaken by the Press Registrar were brought to the notice of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for reducing the newsprint quota according to the verified circulation and for such other action as considered appropriate by them.

(d) Rs. 11 lakhs.

Censorship of Films

*377. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different Criteria are applied in the matter of censorship of Indian pictures and foreign pictures; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Jute Buffer Stock Association

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: *378. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Shri P. C. Borooah: Shri P. G. Sen:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 227 on the 27th March, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the Jute Buffer Stock Association has commenced its operations;

(b) the quantity of raw jute purchased up-to-date;

(c) the purchase price of Assam Bottoms;

(d) how much jute is likely to be purchased before the next coming season;

(e) whether this agency has set up or intends to set up its buying centres directly in the villages and to purchase jute directly from peasants; and

(f) if so, how much of its present purchases have been bought directly from peasants and how much from middelmen selling at Calcutta?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2,50,000 maunds of low grade mesta have been purchased.

(c) Assam bottom variety has not been purchased on this occasion.

(d) Another 2,50,000 maunds will be purchased shortly. Thereafter further purchases will continue depending upon jute supply position, price trend and similar factors.

(e) and (f). Purchases are made by mills in the membership of the Buffer Stock Association. Many of these mills have purchasing organisations in the jute growing districts and have bought jute there. The proportion of jute bought upcountry and in Calcutta is not known.