

**Shri Kanungo:** No, Sir; preference will be given only to co-operative societies.

**Shri Thimmasiah:** May I know what steps Government have taken to see whether these co-operative societies are formed by real producers?

**Shri Kanungo:** The State Government's certificate is enough for us.

**Shri Tangamani:** Sir, I am not asking whether preference will be given to the displaced merchants compared to the co-operative societies. I want to know whether as between merchants the displaced merchants will be given any preference.

**Shri Kanungo:** My answer was "No".

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members who have interest in these particular matters should not try to force a Minister to say something. They should first take it up with the Minister asking him to consider matter leisurely, and thereafter put questions here.

**Shri Tangamani:** He must give a considered reply.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

#### Export of Castor Oil

\*1442. **Shri Achar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is losing its market for castor oil in United Kingdom;

(b) if so, what are the reasons; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Statistics are available upto October 1957 and they do not indicate any decline in export of castor oil to U.K. as compared to the exports

in the corresponding period in 1956. Destinationwise statistics since November, 1957 are not available, but there has been a general decline the exports of castor oil from India during the last few months.

(b) High internal prices and competition from Brazil.

(c) Government is keeping a constant watch. Steps are being taken to increase the production of castorseed in the country. Other suitable steps as may be necessary would be taken.

**Shri Achar:** What is the difference between the quantity exported in 1956-57 and the quantity exported in 1957-58?

**Shri Kanungo:** The export of castor oil to United Kingdom in 1956-57 was 13,700 tons and in 1957 from January to October it was 12,741 tons. The export during the whole year will be a little more.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether demand for castor oil has in recent months increased in the market in India?

**Shri Kanungo:** The local prices are slightly high.

#### News and Information Cadre

\*1443. { **Shri Raghunir Sahal:**  
**Shri V. D. Tripathi:**  
**Shri Harish Chandra**  
**Mathar:**

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a News and Information Cadre is being organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the scheme for the said cadre would be laid on the Table of the House?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A copy of the relevant rules will be laid on the table of the House when they are finalised.

**Shri Raghunir Sahai:** In his reply to a similar question in the Rajya Sabha the hon. Minister stated that the Ministry took about three years to consider this scheme and later on it was approved. Some 14 months have elapsed after this approval was given, and I would like to know why details of this scheme are not being revealed to us?

**Dr. Keskar:** There is nothing secret about these rules. When a cadre is formed in which the officers become permanent, it is a very tedious and long procedure in which not only a number of Ministries have to be consulted, but the Public Service Commission has also to be consulted. When the basic rules were being drafted, all these consultations took place. It is now in the final stages and it has gone to the Public Service Commission. Only when we get their consent will it be possible for us to lay the rules on the Table of the House. The delay is no doubt there, but in such cases the delay is unavoidable.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Could the hon. Minister give us the broad outlines of this scheme?

**Dr. Keskar:** I am afraid, Sir, it will take a long time for me to put up the whole scheme. Mainly the idea is this. There are a number of posts not only in this Ministry but in certain other Ministries also which are concerned with the question of news editing and similar type of work. They all should be got together and a cadre formed with all the officers, from the lowest grade to the highest grade, and in respect of their getting promotions also in the different grades of salaries in a regular way, and they will all be permanent. At the present time, most of these officers are on contract and are temporary.

**Shri Tyagi:** What is the total strength of the Information Officers attached to the various Ministries and to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting?

**Dr. Keskar:** I would require notice for that. But as far as the total

strength is concerned, it will be settled now. By total strength, I mean the total strength of the permanent officers in that cadre.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know if the Government propose to ensure the status and security of service of the A.I.R. staff artistes instead of allowing them to hang on the mercy of the authorities?

**Dr. Keskar:** No, Sir.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether this cadre will be within the purview of the rules framed by the Home Ministry and, if so, where is the necessity for having a different set of rules?

**Dr. Keskar:** All such cases have first to be vetted and approved by the Home Ministry. Before that they cannot go further.

**Shri Raghunir Sahai:** Will the hon. Minister give us an approximate time-limit by which the scheme is going to be implemented?

**Dr. Keskar:** The scheme will be definitely implemented during the course of this year.

**Jessop and Company, Calcutta**

\*1444. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 4-man Committee set up under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 to enquire into the working of Messrs. Jessop and Company Ltd. has submitted its findings;

(b) what further action is contemplated; and

(c) whether such a Committee will be set up regarding other Mundra concerns also?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). These matters are under consideration.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether a similar committee will be appointed in the case of the BIC and