

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Our imports from and exports to Afghanistan during the January-April, 1958 period, were valued at Rs. 162.48 lakhs, and Rs. 85.68 lakhs, respectively.

(b) The trade is on the increase as compared to the January-April, 1957 period.

(c) A Trade Agreement was concluded with the Government of Afghanistan on 10th July, 1958 which provides for a balanced trade between the two countries and India participated in the International Exhibition held in Kabul in August, 1958.

Export of Indian Cars

*909. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Foreign Exchange earned during the last year by the export of Indian cars; and

(b) the names of the countries to which these cars were exported?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No commercial exports of cars appear to have been made in the year 1957.

(b) Does not arise.

Unemployed Engineering Graduates

*912. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of engineering graduates are at present unemployed;

(b) if so, their number; and

(c) the steps taken to provide them with employment?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). At the end of June, 1958, 542 engineering graduates were registered with the Employment Exchanges.

(c) They are likely to find employment under the various development projects being implemented under the Plan.

Property Rights for Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes

*913. **Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rehabilitation Ministry has advised the Punjab State Government to confer property rights to the local members of Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes on payment of nominal price for the residential sites underneath the houses constructed and occupied so far by them in the rural areas of the Punjab State; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is satisfied with the progress made so far in the implementation of the scheme?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Certain instructions have been issued in regard to the disposal of rural houses in the occupation of 'Kamins' in Punjab.

(b) There has not been much progress because certain difficulties in regard to the price of the land on which these houses stand had arisen. These are being resolved and it is expected that the progress now will be rapid.

Import of Glass Chatons

*919. **Shri Siva Raj:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the import policy announced during the January-June, 1957 Licensing period the import of glass chatons was banned;

(b) how much stock of glass chatons is at present available in the country and for what period it can meet the needs of the country;

(c) whether Government have decided to permit the import of glass chatons;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) how much quantity of glass chatons is proposed to be imported; and

(f) whether the policy of importing glass chatons will continue for some-time or it will be a purely temporary measure?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Precise information is not available.

(c) Under the current import policy, import of glass chatons is allowed only under Export Promotion Scheme. Such imports are allowed for value equal to 5 per cent of the value of exports of imitation jewellery containing glass chatons.

(d) To promote export trade.

(e) No import licence has been issued to any private firm during April-September, 1958 (upto 5th July, 1958). An export promotion licence for a value of Rs 1.25 lakhs has, however, been issued to the State Trading Corporation with the assurance that a licence for a like value will be issued each quarter for three more quarters.

(f) The import policy for glass chatons for the next licensing period other than the licences promised to State Trading Corporation cannot be anticipated at this stage.

Weekly Off to Port Workers at Calcutta

*923 **Shri Anthony Pillai:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the Calcutta Port, shore and stevedore workers are granted weekly off with pay; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to extend this scheme to the shore and stevedore workers employed at the ports of Bombay and Madras?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) *Shore workers:* The minimum guarantee of Rs. 92-8-0 per month to the permanent shore workers includes wages for the weekly off-day. The secondary gang porters of the Calcutta Port Commissioners are allowed a paid weekly off after 6 consecutive days of work.

Stevedore workers: Reserve Pool workers get a paid weekly off if they work for 6 consecutive days.

(b) *Shore workers:* The shore workers in Bombay are given weekly off on Sunday, for which no separate payment is due or made. In Madras the permanent shore workers are allowed a paid weekly off.

Stevedore workers: The Bombay and Madras Dock Labour Boards do not give any separate payment for weekly off-days. This is a matter within the discretion of the Dock Labour Boards.

रेमोंगेसाडाइम इ पुरस्कार

६२४ श्री सरज पाण्डे : क्या प्रश्न मत्र यह बनान की रूपा करेगे कि :

(क) क्या रेमोंगेसाडाइमाइ पुरस्कार किसी भारतीय को मिला है ;

(ख) यदि हा . तो किसे , और

(ग) यह पुरस्कार किम आधार पर दिया गया है ?

बंदेशिक-कार्य मत्र के समा-सचिव (श्री सादत अल्लः जी) . (क) जी हां ।

(ख) प्राचार्य विनोबा भावे ।

(ग) यह पुरस्कार उन्हें 'एशिया में समाधारण जन नेतृत्व' के लिये दिया गया है ।