

Export of Primary Commodities

*537. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made as to the causes and extent of fall in prices of primary commodities exported from India in the importing countries specially in U.S.A.;

(b) if so, with what result;

(c) whether it is a fact that fall in prices has resulted in loss to India to a very great extent; and

(d) what is the estimated loss of foreign exchange due to the fall in prices of primary produce exported by India?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d), A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Yes, Sir, The fall in prices of primary commodities stems largely from the recession in the general economic activity. It is not easy to calculate the exact loss of foreign exchange directly attributable solely to the fall in prices. A statement giving the declines in the unit values of export of primary commodities exported from India is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 8]. It will be seen that the loss of foreign exchange directly attributable to the decline in these unit values has been arithmetically estimated at about Rs. 31 crores in 1957 and Rs. 18 crores during the first half of 1958. These estimates, however, naturally do not take into account the losses resulting from price declines in other commodities, declines in demand in foreign markets, pressure of competition from other sources of supply, and the steep fall in the purchasing power of the countries dependent for their foreign exchange resources on the sale of primary products.

Coal Mines Bonus Scheme

*538 { **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1231 of 18th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken to amend the Coal Mines Bonus Scheme with regard to removal of attendance qualification for eligibility; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The matter is still under examination.

Employment Pattern Survey

*539. { **Shri Ram Krishna:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 989 on 27th August, 1958 and state the progress made so far in conducting Employment Pattern Survey by the Delhi University in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Planning Commission?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Collection of data has been completed. It is being tabulated.

Vocational and Technical Training Centre under Dandakaranya Scheme

*540. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a Vocational and Technical Training Centre in connection with Dandakaranya Scheme;

(b) the number of displaced persons to be trained in this Centre; and

(c) when and where the Centre is proposed to be established?