

(c) To what extent did the freight charges increase the sale price of that salt?

(d) What was and is the rate of freight per ton from Vishakapatnam to the port of Calcutta?

(e) What steps have been taken by Government to export salt from Vishakapatnam to Calcutta?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) Approximately 3:85 lakh tons.

(b) The Freight on salt consignments from Kathiawar-Kutch to the port of Calcutta was Rs. 34/8/- per ton during 1952. The present rate effective from 1st January, 1953 is Rs. 30/12/- per ton.

(c) The present freight charges raise the price of Kathiawar/Kutch salt in the Calcutta market by about 5 pies per seer above its price in the producing areas.

(d) Freight from Vishakapatnam to the port of Calcutta is not known as there has been no shipment of salt from that place in recent years.

(e) Government have taken no steps to export salt from Vishakapatnam to Calcutta as there has been no demand for such despatches either from the manufacturers or the general trade. There is however no restriction on such exports.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know, Sir, what steps Government propose to take to develop salt production in the eastern coast in view of the fact that it is cheap to export to Calcutta?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** The question is too general, Sir. Every possible step is being taken for the production of salt in all parts of India, and salt production even in the east coast has gone up. It is open to any private manufacturer to come forward to manufacture more salt in the east coast, and the Government will be glad to help him.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know, Sir, if Government propose to enquire into the freight charges from Vishakapatnam to Calcutta?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I do not see why the Government should enquire into this matter?

**Shri Punnoose:** Is there a complaint that the freight charge is high?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I am not aware of any such complaint, Sir.

\*1329. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantity of Jaffna chewing tobacco imported into the Indian Union during the last year?

(b) How does the quality of Jaffna tobacco differ from that produced in India?

(c) Do Government propose to allow imports of Jaffna chewing tobacco in 1953-54 and also in future?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a). 354,149 lbs. in 1952.

(b) The Jaffna Tobacco is said to have a specially attractive taste not found in chewing tobacco produced in India.

(c) Yes.

**Shri Nanadas:** What steps have the Government taken to produce the Jaffna variety of tobacco in India itself?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The total production of the Indian variety similar to the Jaffna variety is at present estimated to be somewhere between 4 to 5 million lbs. and it is likely that in the near future the entire demand from Travancore-Cochin may be met.

**Some Hon. Members:** We could not hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is likely that the entire demand will be met in a few years' time.

**Shri Punnoose:** He said something about Travancore-Cochin. What is that?

**Shri Karmarkar:** That is the area largely consuming the Jaffna tobacco. Therefore, I referred to it.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know whether Government has entered into any agreement with any company in Jaffna to import Jaffna tobacco for the next ten years?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I don't think so, Sir.

POSTS IN A.I.R. AND PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

\*1330. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how many posts in A.I.R. and Press Information Bureau are held by persons who were recruited directly and not through the Union Public Service Commission?

(b) How many of them do not possess the requisite qualifications?

(c) How many of them are those who were rejected by the U.P.S.C.?

(d) If there are any, what steps are taken to prevent such irregularities?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a)—

All India Radio: 204

Press Information Bureau: 16

(b) All India Radio: 2

Press Information Bureau: Nil.

(c) All India Radio: 41

Press Information Bureau: 1

(d) All India Radio: Of the 41 persons continuing in their posts in spite of rejection by the Union Public Service Commission, 35 are being replaced by duly selected candidates and 6 will be replaced after necessary selection has been made by the U. P. S. C.

Press Information Bureau: The post held by the rejected person has already been referred to the Union Public Service Commission for recruitment.

To prevent irregular appointments in future, necessary instructions have already been issued to all Attached Offices.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know, Sir, how these direct recruitments took place?

**Shri Karmarkar:** When the All India Radio was being rapidly developed, there was not sufficient time to make these recruitments in the normal manner. Therefore, these direct recruitments were made, and as soon as it was possible, we have taken steps to see to it that these are regularised and proper selections made.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** What happens to those candidates who are put on the waiting list by the Union Public Service Commission.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I think they are waiting.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** I think this is no answer, Sir. I want to know what happens to those candidates who are put on the waiting list. Where do they disappear?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I think the correct answer is that they have to wait until they are accepted or rejected.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** At what time did this rapid development of the All India Radio take place when these appointments were made?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The appointments have been made since 1947 and it was found possible only recently to regularise these and take vigorous steps to see to it that everything is regularised.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** In view of the reply about regularising the appointments, may I know if there were no instructions in the beginning as to how the men should be recruited and about their fitness as in other departments?

**Shri Karmarkar:** There was a regular committee of the Ministry itself. What I meant by regularisation was regularisation through the normal process of the Union Public Service Commission where such posts are to be filled by the U.P.S.C. They were not irregular appointments.

#### NILOKHERI

\*1331. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nilokheri is situated in a very low lying area;

(b) whether it is a fact that during rainy season water enters the houses in that colony;

(c) whether it is a fact that the locality is always affected by malaria; and

(d) whether this fact was taken into consideration at the time of selection of the locality for development projects?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** (a) It is in a low-lying area.

(b) Yes, occasionally.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know, Sir, if any representation was made by the residents of Nilokheri to bring about more sanitary conditions there?

**Shri Nanda:** It does not need any representation. The administration is making every effort to make the place as sanitary as possible.