

(e) when an up-to-date list is expected to be published?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These officers were grouped separately as principles regarding fixation of their seniority were not settled at the time the list was sent to the Press.

(c) The list was corrected upto 1st January 1949 as shown in the list.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) By the end of April, 1953.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the Government have settled the claims of these officers with regard to their status, conditions of service, pay etc.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The list will be up-to-date. The publication of the list does not have anything to do really with the settlement of claims.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What are the reasons for such inordinate delay in publishing these lists?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would remind the hon. Member that I gave him the reasons sometime back in reply to another question. If he wants them again, I have no hesitation in repeating them.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In reply to a similar question last time, the hon. Minister said that the irregularities and mistakes that crept into the list would be verified by the Minister. May I know whether he has done it?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir. It is for this reason that the matter has been somewhat delayed and instead of the undertaking that I gave on that occasion that the list would be published in January, now it will be published in April.

Shri B. S. Murthy: With reference to clause (b) of the answer, may I know whether any complaints have been made and if so, what action has been taken?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is a very general question. Any number of complaints might have been made. I cannot be expected to give as to what happened with regard to each complaint unless he could specify some of those complaints.

GANDAK VALLEY PROJECT

***890. Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gandak Valley Project will be started in the next financial year; and

(b) whether the question of giving special grants for this project to the State Governments concerned by the Central Government is under consideration?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The project is not included in the Five Year Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of India insisted that Bihar Government should include any of the two projects, the Gandak Valley Project or the Kosi Project in the Five Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: It was a question of necessity. They were asked to prefer which of the two should be included.

Shri B. N. Roy: May I know whether it is a fact that this project needs less capital in comparison with other important projects as Bhakra-Nangal, Damodar, etc.?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member saying that it ought to be included?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Is Government aware that this scheme is the cheapest of all the schemes in India?

Shri Hathi: May be.

COMMODITIES OF TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

***892. Shri H. S. Prasad:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the commodities that come to the Indian Union from Nepal?

(b) What are the commodities that Nepal imports from the Indian Union?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 19.]

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

***894. Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to the Punjab Government from the Hand-loom Fund?

for the development of hand-loom industry; and

(b) the number of representatives from the Punjab State on the All-India Handloom Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) No payments were made to the Punjab Government for this purpose. I might add that an amount of Rs. 39,555 was sanctioned from the Handloom Development Fund for payment to the Punjab Government in 1949/50 but the amount was not paid presumably because no claim was made by the State Government concerned.

(b) There are no members from the Punjab on the present All-India Handloom Board.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know how the members of the Handloom Board are recruited? Are they nominees of the States or the nominees of the Central Government?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: They are nominees recruited by the Central Government. They are recruited for their knowledge of the handloom industry.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know if any representation has been received by the hon. Minister from the All India Spinners Association at Adamapur in Jullundur district, for any grant?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any representatives of the recognised Associations of Handloom weavers have been co-opted in the Board?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Non-official Members in the Board are very well-known workers in the field of handloom industry.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: Does Punjab happen to be the only State, or has Assam the same fate as Punjab in the matter of non-grant of any funds for the handloom industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. Member could kindly put a question in regard to Assam, I shall answer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question relates only to Punjab.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: I wanted to know whether Punjab is the only State where no funds have been given to the handloom industry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Velayudhan.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Handloom Board has decided to send any delegation to South East Asian countries for exploring the possibilities of selling handloom cloth there?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That does not arise.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether any amount was paid to the handloom weavers or their associations in the Madras State?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A separate question may be put to the hon. Minister.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know what action the Central Government took when the Punjab Government did not ask for the funds allotted?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is rather difficult. The Government make an allocation. If the purpose for which an allocation is made is not carried out, the State Government does not ask for the allocation. Presumably, in this case, the Punjab Government did not go in for the work for which they asked allocation.

BUDGET PROVISION FOR SALT WORKS

*895. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state how the amount budgeted under head 'Capital Outlay on Salt Works' is going to be spent during 1953-54?

(b) What amount, if any, is going to be spent out of it on improving the quality of salt?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) A provision of Rs. 8 lakhs has been made for the development of existing salt works. A tentative list of the works on which this amount is proposed to be spent, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 20.]

In addition a token provision of Rs. 1 lakh has been made for the development of the Mandi Rock Salt Mines.

(b) The improvement of the quality of salt does not depend upon any single factor. It is, therefore, not possible to say how much will exactly be spent exclusively on improving the quality of salt.