

have been undertaken by the State Government in the matter, attention is invited to the Statement laid on the Table of the House in response to unstarred question No. 703 on 25th March 1953.

BARODA RADIO STATION

*1165. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for closing the A.I.R. Station at Baroda has been dropped for the present; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). No, Sir, the Baroda transmitter of All India Radio will however, be closed only when the new high power 50 KW mediumwave transmitter starts functioning at Ahmedabad.

RIVER PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

*1166. **Shri Kanavade Patil:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to give priorities to big river projects for irrigation in Maharashtra with a view to give permanent relief to the famine-stricken areas in Maharashtra;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have asked for the opinion of the Bombay State Government on this point; and

(c) if so, what reply has been given by the Government of Bombay regarding the priority to be given to big river projects for irrigation?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) to (c). The Central Government are at present considering in consultation with the Government of Bombay a programme of additional irrigation schemes for the scarcity affected areas of Maharashtra.

RAW MATERIALS FOR MATCH INDUSTRY

*1167. **Pandit C. N. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the average quantity

of raw materials used in the match factories in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): On the basis of installed capacity, a statement giving the average quantity of raw materials used in the match factories in relation to average production has been worked out, and is laid on the Table of the House. It should not however be treated as being anything more than a very rough estimate.

STATEMENT

Raw material	Average quantity used
1. Amorphous Phosphorus	160 tons
2. Potassium Chlorate	2,000 tons
3. Sulphur	200 tons
4. Blue & Green Match Paper	2,880 tons
5. Glue	400 tons
6. Wood	96,000 tons
7. Starch	1,600 tons

MATCHES

*1168. **Pandit C. N. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirements of matches in India annually;

(b) the average value of matches exported annually; and

(c) the number of match factories in India State-wise which have stopped production or have been wound up since 1st January 1953 up-to-date?

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

(a) The requirements are estimated at about 500,000 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each.

(b) Rs. 88,000/- during 1951-52 and Rs. 98,000/- during 1952-53.

(c) According to the statistics available with the Government, three factories have closed down during the current year, one each in the States of Madras, Saurashtra and Mysore.

AUDITION TESTS FOR A.I.R. ARTISTS

*1169. **Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Information and Broad-