

between the representatives of the two Governments was 81,000 tons made up as follows:

East Pakistan...48,000 tons.

West Pakistan...33,000 tons.

The demand actually placed by the Pakistan Government on the Coal Commissioner, India, has however, been less.

(c) December 1953...45,393 tons.

January 1954...51,051 tons.

exclusive of 4,186 tons of Assam coal despatched to East Pakistan during these two months.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know, because the answer to (a) has been 'No', whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government requested the Government of India to send coal through other routes than the usual sea route?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** As I have explained, there are two routes by which we send coal to West Pakistan and East Pakistan—rail *cum* river route and sea route. Now, it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan asked for supply of more coal by rail route *via* Moghal Sarai.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether the supply of coal to West Pakistan by rail will cause any difficulty to local consumers?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Yes. The position is, in case we want to completely satisfy the demands of Pakistan by rail route, wagon requirements will be about 1500, where as Pakistan has placed only 1,000 to 1,200 wagons at our disposal. Besides that, if we take more coal *via* Moghal Sarai route it will deprive the local consumers of their quota.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Have the Government any idea of the total coal requirements of Pakistan and what proportion of that is met from Indian supplies, and have any possibilities been explored to increase the supply to Pakistan?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** It is very difficult to say exactly what is the total requirement of Pakistan, but the figures for 1952 are like this.

By rail and sea routes 11,43,870 tons were despatched, and subsequently there was a reduction.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** I wanted to know.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They have not considered the point as to how much they want and how much they can supply.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know, in view of the fact that Pakistan needs more coal, whether they are offering to give jute in exchange, and whether Government of India are arranging to send more coal to Pakistan?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** I am not quite sure about it, but the question of jute was interconnected with the discussions in 1952, but that question is now more before the Government now.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Is it a fact that in the supply position of coal to North Bengal and Assam there was some difficulty due to shortage of wagons?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** I think there was a similar question by an hon. Member here regarding supplies to North Bengal. Regarding Assam I am not in a position to say. The difficulty was because of restrictions and limitations placed by the Railway. Recently, I am informed that the Government have increased the despatches under special orders.

#### SALT

\*1804. **Shri Raghuramiah:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared any quantity of salt manufactured in Andhra State during 1953 as unfit for human consumption; and

(b) if so, the approximate quantity so declared and the reasons therefor?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):** (a) Yes.

(b) Approximately 3,65,000 maunds. The salt did not come up to the prescribed standard of purity.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** What is the minimum percentage of sodium chloride required by the Government?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** The standard of sodium chloride fixed for 1953 was 93.5 per cent. For the current year it is 94 per cent.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** May I know whether representations have not been received that a large number of poor people were affected by the high percentage required by the Government and whether Government was not requested to reduce it by one more point?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Representations may have been received, but, I am not sure in this particular case. As representations are received, Government considers each case on its individual merits and grants certain relaxation.

**Shri Nanadas:** What is the procedure adopted in certifying the quality of salt? Which is the authority that certifies?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** I think there are research laboratories located here and there. That is how we fix it.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know what steps Government have taken to ensure that the certifying authorities are not influenced by interested parties?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is no end to this! Next question.

#### POWER ALCOHOL

\*1305. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry

be pleased to state:

(a) the number of concerns engaged in the manufacture of power alcohol; and

(b) the total amount of excise duty received from the industry during the same period?

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

(a) There are 19 distilleries in India equipped to produce Power Alcohol, out of which only 15 are at present producing it.

(b) The total amount of excise duty collected during the year 1953 was Rs. 82,33,000.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** From what material is power alcohol produced?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Molasses.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Where are most of the factories situated?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I shall place on the Table of the House a list of the factories.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether mahua flowers are being utilised for the manufacture of power alcohol?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It can be used. I cannot say with any precision whether it is used at all.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** May I know whether the Government is aware that the plants are not working to their full capacity as the Government has failed to implement the enactment that was made 16 months ago?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I will answer the first portion of the question in the affirmative and the second portion in the negative.

**Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** May I know whether the factories are able to utilise the whole quantity of molasses produced in India every year?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is not a question of utilisation of molasses produced in India. It is a question of