

Shri A. M. Thomas: Total.

Shri Karmarkar: In 1953-54, the total figure was, exports to China, Rs. 79,67,000 as against Rs. 41,25,000 in 1952-53. Imports from China in 1952-53: the figure was Rs. 13,03,00,000. That was due to rice, grain and pulse flour that we imported from China. In 1953-54, it was Rs. 99,00,000.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the proposed export of tobacco to China will have to wait until we finalise the negotiations with the Chinese Government?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri Bansal: Is there any proposal under the consideration of Government to exchange trade delegations between the two countries?

Shri Karmarkar: It does not arise out of this question, I am afraid.

JUTE ENQUIRY COMMISSION

*294. **Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report of the Jute Enquiry Commission; and

(b) if so, which of its recommendations are to be implemented?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is expected that a resolution on the subject will be published shortly.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether there is any proposal before the Government from the Jute Mills Association to increase the working hours?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The working hours have recently been increased from 42½ to 45. If the present demand for jute goods continues, perhaps a further increase may be necessary.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know whether it is a fact, that, on

the question of increasing the working hours, the Jute Mills Association has proposed to the Government that they are prepared to increase to 48 hours provided the export duty is abolished?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think the Government would entertain such a bargain.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether the Government are aware that there is a strong public opinion against some of the recommendations of the Commission, for instance, the opening of the futures market and the Commission's inability to recommend fixation of minimum price of jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government are aware of the recommendations of any Commission. Certain portions of those recommendations must be controversial.

D.V.C. (IRRIGATION)

*295. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irrigation is done in Bihar by the Damodar Valley Project;

(b) the total area under irrigation; and

(c) the revenue derived therefrom during 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir. A scheme for the utilisation of water from the Tilaya project for Irrigation in Bihar is under the consideration of the D. V. C.

(b) Nil.

(c) Nil.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Under the irrigation scheme which is being considered by the D. V. C., may I know what part of Bihar or what acreage is likely to be irrigated?

Shri Hathi: The Bihar Government has prepared a scheme for irrigating certain areas. I cannot exactly say which districts will be irrigated.

Mr. Speaker: Can he give the acreage? He wants that also.

Shri Hathi: About 7,500 arces or so.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any irrigation is to be done in West Bengal under this project?

Shri Hathi: Areas in Bengal will be irrigated under this in the 1954-55 crop.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध कब तक निश्चित रूप से हो जायेगा, और इस सम्बन्ध में बिहार सरकार से कौन सी बातें तय पाई गई हैं ?

Shri Hathi: The Bihar Government has, I said, prepared a scheme at a cost of Rs. 27,00,000 which will irrigate an area which I just mentioned. That scheme has been approved by the D.V.C. It will take some time before it is finalised.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want to know whether it is intended now to utilise the reservoir at Tilalya for irrigation purpose as against the previous project design.

Shri Hathi: Even in the previous project there was some element of irrigation. It was not purely for flood control. There was an element of irrigation also.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला ।

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

उन्होंने कहा है कि सरकार इस का प्रबन्ध करेगी और बिहार सरकार ने स्कीम तैयार की है ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : कब तक तैयार हो जायेगी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस में थोड़ा समय लगेगा ।

A.I.R.

*296. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the action Government have taken in meeting the linguistic requirements of all A.I.R. Stations; and

(b) whether the present staff have been asked to learn more languages for linguistic facility?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) The present permanent administrative staff of All India Radio has not been recruited keeping view of the linguistic requirements of the various Stations. Therefore, certain language groups have unfortunately little representation. Proficiency of the language of the region is of some importance for only the lower grade Programme Executives and Programme Assistants. Every effort is being made to utilise the present strength in the best manner possible. The only satisfactory solution of a permanent nature would be to have a separate production staff of competent persons for Programmes which will do justice to the linguistic needs of the Stations.

(b) The staff at Hindi Stations and those dealing with programmes at other Stations are required to pass a proficiency examination in Hindi. They are also encouraged to learn one or more regional languages.

Th. Lakshman Singh Charak: May I know if the Government holds any departmental examination to ensure that the linguistic knowledge of the staff remains up-to-date?

Dr. Keskar: This question has been taken up for consideration now. The position of the permanent administrative staff was in a fluid condition up to last year. It is only last year that the U.P.S.C. regularised and finalised the structure of the cadre. The question of having some sort of proficiency tests for languages has been taken up now.

Shri A. M. Thomas: During the discussion of the Budget Demands for this particular Ministry last time, opinion was expressed about the desirability of having programmes in important Indian languages, for instance, Malayalam, for the benefit of Indians in South East Asia. Has the Government considered this proposal? If so, with what results?