PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I-Ouestions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

1433

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 3rd July, 1952.

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CAPITAL GOODS

*1429. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister, of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether India exported any capital goods to other countries during 1951-52; and

(b) if so, what was the value of the goods exported and which were the countries of export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamacharl): (a) and (b). Capital goods of imported origin are not allowed to be re-exported, but the export of Indian machinery and mill work including belting and print-ing and lithographic machinery is per-mitted. The value of such exports in 1951-52 was about Rs. one crore and the countries to which exports took place were Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand and British East Africa

Sardar Hukam Singh: What did we get from those countries in exchange for the machinery that we exported?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I have not got the information with me just now.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether we have made any progress during the last three years in our endeavour to build a market in these countries for the few goods that we export to them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Statistics show that in 1949-50, the trade was

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for Rs. 72 lakhs, in 1950-51 there was a recession, the figure being about Rs. 54 lakhs, and in 1951-52 it is a little over Rs. 1 crore.

Shri Velayudhan: May T know whether the Government have received any complaint that the export duty levied on those capital goods are too high, so that our market in those countries has become dull?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: not aware of the export duty I am being levied high or low there on capital goods.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know whether the goods that we exported, particularly belting, are of Indian manufacture?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, we do not allow re-exports of articles of imported origin, but we export articles made in India.

MIGRATION OF JEWS

*1430. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of jews of Indian nationality who migrated from India to Israel on the coming into being of that State;

(b) the number of such of them as have expressed their desire to return to India;

(c) the number of such of them as have already been allowed to come to India; and

(d) the number of those whose cases are still under consideration?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) It is estimated that 2,337 Jews have emigrated from India to Israel since 1948. It is not known how many of them were of Indian nationality.

- (b) About 165.
- (c) About 150.
- (d) About 15.

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Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether Jews of non-Indian nationality would be allowed to come back?

Shri Satish Chandra: Among Jews of Non-Indian origin, there are two categories. There are some Jews who came to India and had lived here for a number of years, before they migrated to Israel after the formation of that State. There are others who came here from some other countries on their way to Israel. The Government of India will consider individual tases on the merits of each case.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether those who have been allowed to come back and settle here have acquired rights of citizenship?

Shri Satish Chandra: Those who were Indian cifizens and are allowed to come back will again acquire rights of Indian citizenship.

Shri S. N. Das: What were the circumstances that led to their migration and those prevailing there that have led them to express their desire to come back?

Mr. Speaker: I think the-question would be hypothetical. The statement was made that some may have come back. Have any really come back?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, Sir. Many have actually come back. They went there for sentimental reasons on the formation of a Jewish State, on account of their affiliation to that faith. But they found that the conditions there were quite unfavourable. The climatic condition, did not suit many of them. Many of them could not be absorbed in the economic life of that country. Also there was colour discrimination against Jews of Indian nationality. They found life very hard there, and so many wanted to come back.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know Sir, the places in our country where these Jews are residing in large numbers?

Shri Satish Chandra: They are residing mostly in Bombay and Calcutta.

COTTON (IMPORT)

*1431. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton purchased from foreign countries for the year 1952-53;

(b) what are the countries from which cotton was purchased and at what price in Indian Rupees per bale; (c) what quantity of cotton has arrived in India upto the 30th of April, 1952 and when the remainderis expected;

(d) whether there is likely to be any surplus from this imported cotton which will not be utilized this year and if so, how much; and

(e) what are the prevailing prices of all these imported varieties?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). I presume the hon. Member is referring to the cotton purchased during the cotton season 1951-52 (September 1951 to August If so, except in the case of 1952). African cotton, purchases of foreign cottons are arranged East other foreign cottons are arranged direct by the mills or through im-porters. East African cotton has been purchased by the Government of India in bulk in collaboration with the U.K. Raw Cotton Commission. The current season's contract covers a quantity of 160,000 bales and the price paid for the standard East African variety is Rs. 2,405 per candy. I lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the quantities for which licences have been granted from 1st September. 1951 to 30th April, 1952. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 17.] Prices of foreign cottons other than East African being uncontrolled and fluctuating from time to time. Govrent season's contract covers a quantity fluctuating from time to time. Government have no information regard-ing the prices at which these cottons have been purchased this year.

(c) 9,10,651 bales. The remainder is expected to arrive by the end of December. 1952.

(d) It is not possible to answer this question with any degree of precision.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 18.]

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I think the hon. Minister said the total imports were 1-6 lakhs, is it not 1-6 million bales?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir, it is one lakh sixty thousand bales.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that this year's imports have been the largest in the last few years?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May be, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If it is a fact that this year's target was twice that of the year 1948-49, what were the causes that led the Government to