

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 cases 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 citizens 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 remainder is 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 1952). If so, except in the case of East African cotton, purchases of other foreign cottons are arranged direct by the mills or through importers. 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, Government have no information regarding 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

import the largest quantity during the last five years?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not prepared to grant the hypothesis on which the hon. member's question is based.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is not a hypothesis, Sir, it is published in the report.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question of importation, as I said on a previous occasion, is based on an expectation of 34.5 lakhs of bales of local supply.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is double that of 1948-49?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is in excess of previous years' undoubtedly. We had originally budgeted for 16 lakhs of bales from outside and the present position is that we are getting only 14 lakhs of bales. If my hon. friend asks me what were the causes, I can only say that the circumstances warranted what we have done.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: To what extent is the revision of the prices of cloth due to the fact that the present prices of cotton imported from foreign countries is selling at low prices, whereas we had paid very high prices for them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is an information which I think will have to be got from reports of selling prices of foreign cotton from time to time. The prices fixed for the current quarter of the year has been on the basis of prices ruling in the week ending the 10th June 1952.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Are any steps being taken to determine what should be the import of cotton for next year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a little premature for us to make any decision in that regard.

Shri S. G. Parikh: Is it a fact, Sir, that the mills had to purchase American cotton within a span of two months, i.e., September and October, and by that policy the mills lost heavily?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, as I have said in answer to the question, the matter of purchasing American cotton is left to the mills themselves, and there is no compulsion because Government did not purchase on their

behalf. It might be that they had purchased at a time not favourable for them and they might have lost on that account.

Shri S. G. Parikh: The time-limit was there,—two months.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Licences given for the purpose of importing American cotton has been extended till December 1952 and the Government have not imposed any time-limit.

Shri N. S. Nair: May I know, Sir, what happened to the huge stocks of rotten cotton which reached Bombay two months back?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. member means the American cotton which is supposed to have been damaged, negotiations are going on with a view to settle the claims of Indian importers amicably.

LABOUR OFFICERS

*1432. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) how many Government Labour Officers have been trained in Social Work Course in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) how many are proposed to be trained in 1952-53;

(c) whether this sort of training is compulsory;

(d) how many of the trained officers were sent abroad for further study since 1947; and

(e) whether trained Government Labour Officers are to occupy their former posts or whether they are elevated?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 30 in 1950-51 and 29 in 1951-52.

(b) 30.

(c) Yes.

(d) 5.

(e) They rejoin their former posts after training, but are eligible for promotion to higher posts in the usual course.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, the names of the institutions where social work courses are imparted?

Shri V. V. Giri: At the present moment, in the Calcutta University.