

(c) when India will sign any Treaty of peace with West Germany; and

(g) whether it will be a separate Treaty or the same as has been signed recently by the four powers?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The hon. Member has misunderstood the nature of the Agreements, called the "Convention on Relations between the three Powers and the Federal Republic of Germany, and related Conventions", recently signed by three of the four Occupying Powers, namely, the U.S.A., the U.K. and France, with the Federal Republic of Germany. This Convention replaces the former Occupation Statute governing the administration of the zones occupied by the three powers concerned. It ends their occupation, and grants to the Federal Republic of Germany a qualified degree of sovereignty. India is not, and has not been, an occupying power in Germany. The question of its signing such a convention, therefore, does not arise. The conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany is another matter. That can only be signed when the differences between the Four Powers which have been in occupation of Germany, namely, the U.S.S.R., the U.S.A., the U.K. and France, have been resolved. The Government of India are watching the negotiations between these Powers on this subject with great interest.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that as yet, technically, there has been no cessation of war between West Germany and those powers?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Of course there has been cessation of war, but there has not been a formal treaty.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the India Government negotiate for a separate treaty or will they sign the treaty along with the other powers?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as we are concerned there is no war and we have declared that there is no necessity for any further step. We are in diplomatic relations with it, and we cannot be in diplomatic relations unless those obstacles have been removed.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether we have diplomatic relations with Eastern Germany as well as Western Germany?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, only with Western Germany.

INDIAN RAW JUTE

*1541. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present average price of Indian raw jute;

(b) the landed price of Pakistani raw jute in rupees;

(c) whether it is a fact that the mills are not making the usual purchase of raw jute;

(d) if so, the reason and its repercussion on the jute growing industry of the rural area; and

(e) the stock of Indian raw jute still in the hands of the jute cultivators?

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

(a) The average price during June 1952 was Rs. 27/7/- per maund of Assam Bottoms in the Calcutta market. The average price for the first three days of July 1952 was Rs. 26/13/- per maund.

(b) The landed price of Pakistan Jute Bottoms at Calcutta is about Rs. 38/- per maund (in Indian currency) on the basis of the minimum price of Rs. 17(P) per maund fixed in Pakistan.

(c) to (e). Mills have for some time now not been buying any Pakistan jute owing to high prices and have been dependent entirely on purchases of Indian jute to keep up production. In general, therefore, the purchase of jute has been satisfactory and Government understand that the major portion of the raw jute crop was sold by growers by the middle of February. Reports have, however, been received that in certain outlying areas where the variety of jute grown is of an inferior kind the stocks still remaining unsold are appreciable and the matter has been taken up with the industry.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that Pakistan has recently imposed some discriminating rates for Indian importers of raw jute and, if so, what is the discriminating rate?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Pakistan recently reduced its export duty. At the same time they imposed a licence fee of Rs. 2-8 per maund (Pakistan currency) on jute exported to India.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the rate at which it is offered to India is higher than the rate at which it is offered to other countries and, if that is so, is it not discrimination?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is the position. If there is a licence fee of Rs. 2-8 per maund (Pakistan currency) on jute exported to India, there is discrimination.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that this Rs. 2-8 (Pakistan currency) would practically come to Rs. 3-4 for Indian importers and, if so, may I know what steps Government are taking in the matter so that this discrimination may be withdrawn?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The assumption that it would cost more in Indian currency is correct. So far as Government taking any steps is concerned, the matter is being discussed at appropriate levels. What will happen is a different matter.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that jute goods are offered to America by the Continent at rates lower than those quoted by Indian mills, despite the Indian mills' clear advantage in raw material costs?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That was the position that existed before we reduced the export duty. After we reduced the duty the price differential disappeared and America is buying Indian jute.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have Government any idea of fixing minimum prices for raw jute in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister has stated that some of the raw jute produced in India is of inferior quality. May I know if Government has taken any step to improve the quality by removing its greyness and stiffness?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question may be addressed to the Food and Agriculture Minister.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think, Sir, that it is within the scope of the Commerce and Industry Ministry because the jute industry is having a research institute.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is not able to give an answer.

Shri A. C. Guha: But he has tried to divert me to the Food and Agriculture Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is another way of saying that he is not in possession of the information!

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the production of raw jute in India is sufficient for the requirements of the Indian mills?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment, yes.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the effect of the new levy imposed by the Pakistan Government, on the export of jute goods from this country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know the effect of the indirect levy of licence fee by the Pakistan Government, in the matter of production of jute goods in this country.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We have not imported any jute from Pakistan which has paid this licence fee, and until we import it we cannot say what the economic effects of this licence fee will be on the industry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the effect, adverse or otherwise, of the duty imposed by the Pakistan Government, on the jute goods imported into Pakistan from India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has not yet been imported in large quantities to know the effect.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Taking into account the number of hours that the jute mills are working, will the hon. Minister state for how many months the mills can work with the stocks with India and not getting anything from Pakistan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Without going into figures I can mention to the House that I had a talk with the President of the Indian Jute Mills Association recently when he was here for a different purpose. He feels that the present stock position is satisfactory and that the mills can go on until the new crop comes in. I must say that this is subject to correction because I have just accepted what he said, as the correct position.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the fact that A grade quality jute is not produced in India, and we are not getting this jute from Pakistan, may we know whether this will have any adverse effect on our industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I could not catch the import of the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a matter of opinion. The question is this. Jute of a high quality is not imported from Pakistan and it is not locally produced. What is the effect of this on the industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is conceded that Pakistan jute is of a better quality. The jute produced in Bihar and Bengal are not inferior. The inferior

variety is of the Birnli variety. I do not think there is any adverse effect because the mills are manufacturing jute goods with existing stocks.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister has given the landed cost of Pakistan jute in Calcutta. Has this taken into consideration all the rates, charges, etc., or is it only the price?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am quite willing to enlighten my hon. friend. The minimum price of jat bottoms per maund is fixed by the Pakistan Jute Board at Rs. 17 in Pakistan currency. The export duty is Rs. 3-12-0. It varies in the case of *pukka* bales and *kutchu* bales. This is the export duty on *kutchu* bales. The export duty on *pukka* bales is Rs. 3. License fees Rs. 2-8-0; and transport charges in Pakistan Rs. 2. The total is Rs. 25-4-0 in Pakistan currency. In Indian currency it comes to Rs. 36-6-0; plus commission and other charges Rs. 1-12-0, the price comes to Rs. 38-2-0. If I have said it is Rs. 38, I admit I am slightly wrong.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the Minister aware of recent reports in some Calcutta Papers that because of shortage of raw jute, some mills intend to cut down their working hours?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have not seen it and I do not believe it.

DISPLACED MUSLIMS IN ASSAM

*1542. **Jonab Amjad Ali:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many families in the Districts of Goalpara, Kamrup and Cachar in Assam had to leave their homes during the disturbances of 1950;

(b) the extent of property damaged on an average in respect of each family;

(c) in how many cases District or Minority Boards returned their lost cattle to them;

(d) whether a large number of petitions for lands of uprooted Muslims are yet lying undisposed of with the authorities; and

(e) if so, why?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) The approximate number of families is as follows:

Goalpara	27,000
Kamrup	10,800
Cachar	100

(b) The information required is not available.

(c) About 50,000 head of cattle were restored by the District officers.

(d) and (e). Almost all the displaced Muslims who returned to their homes have been restored to their lands.

Jonab Amjad Ali: Is the Government prepared to issue a directive to the State Government Rehabilitation in Assam to restore to the rightful owners the rest of the lands that they have not been given?

Shri Satish Chandra: The lands of all the displaced Muslims who returned to their homes have been restored.

Jonab Amjad Ali: Mark, that the word 'almost' is there. The answer is: "Almost all the displaced Muslims..." What about the remaining?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the policy; that would be done.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Directives have been issued from time to time. It may be that in some individual cases they have not been given effect to.

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): In fact, the information which was received from Assam goes to show that a larger number of Muslims have returned to Goalpara district than those who actually went out to Pakistan. Many of those who had not actually gone had also been settled on lands.

Shrimati Khongmen: Is not a fact that the non-Muslims who came to Assam from Pakistan far outnumber the Muslims who went over to Pakistan?

Shri Satish Chandra: I require notice.

TRADE WITH U. S. S. R.

*1544. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the Statement placed on the Table of the House in reply to starred question No. 314 asked on 30th May, 1952 regarding trade with U.S.S.R. and countries of Eastern Europe and state:

(a) whether in the Statement of Imports from U.S.S.R. in 1951-52 of the total value of Rs. 1.38 crores, account has been taken of the imports of wheat from U.S.S.R. during this period;

(b) if not, the reasons for excluding these consignments of foodgrains from these trade statistics;

(c) whether in Statement I all the commodities exported by India on barter basis have been included; and