

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that in these barter deals the Russian Government has been too exacting and the negotiations had to be prolonged and protracted over a long period because of the difficulty in satisfying the U.S.S.R. Government?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

JUTE MANUFACTURES

***1774. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the effect on orders from the U.S.A. for jute manufactures as a result of the reduction of the export duties recently?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): American purchases of burlap in India increased from 26 million yards in April 1952 to 119 million yards in May 1952, June purchases are expected to be good.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the reduction in the export duty on raw jute has enabled India to underquote her European rivals?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is correct, Sir.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the Government expects to win back the lost market in jute as a result of this reduction of export duty?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is also right, Sir.

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

***1775. Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how many and which countries participated in the International Film Festival organised in India in 1951-52?

(b) What was the number of delegates from each country?

(c) What was the total expenditure incurred by the Government of India for and in connection with the Festival?

(d) Is India invited in similar Festivals in other countries?

(e) If so, which of the Festivals were attended by India since 1947?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No 44]

(c) Rs. 82,158-4-0.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 45]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, how many feature films and documentaries were shown in this festival at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay and Delhi?

Dr. Keskar: Sir, this is given in the statement with the names of all the feature films that were shown.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether films for children and 'puppet' films were also shown?

Dr. Keskar: A few films for children and 'puppet' films by foreign producers were also shown at this festival.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, what arrangements are being made by our Government to produce children's films and 'puppet' films?

Dr. Keskar: One of the main objects of holding this festival was to show to our producers the utility and popularity of such films, and we hope that after seeing these films they will also take up similar production.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know, Sir, what arrangements had been made by the Government of India for the tour of the film delegates in this country? If so, what is the expenditure incurred by the Government of India towards that?

Dr. Keskar: Sir, this delegation toured at their own expense and we did not incur any expenditure for their tour.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Which were the towns in India to which this festival moved during its exhibition?

Dr. Keskar: The festival was held in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was the response encouraging?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir. The festival was very successful.

KOSI PROJECT

***1777. Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Advisory Committee on the Kosi Project has recommended immediate construction of Belka Dam Scheme in view of the urgency of the Kosi flood problem;

(b) if so, whether the Government of India have accepted the said recommendation; and

(c) how Government propose to apportion financial responsibilities between the State of Bihar and the Government of Nepal?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir; the Advisory Committee have *inter alia* recommended the construction of a storage dam at Belka Hill site in Nepal.

(b) The Government of India have asked for the preparation of a revised project estimate report, incorporating the main features of the Advisory Committee Report along with other features to give increased food production, and have authorised necessary field studies for the purpose.

(c) The question of apportioning the financial responsibilities between the State of Bihar and the Government of Nepal does not arise at this stage.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, the estimated comparative cost of this Belka Dam and the old Kosi Dam project?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: As far as I remember, Sir, the estimate of the old Kosi dam project was about Rs. 135 crores, and that of the Belka dam project Rs. 66 crores.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that in view of the smaller expenditure and greater immediate corresponding gains, the Government of Bihar have shown their preference to the Belka dam scheme?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The final project is not ready, but it is probable that the Government of Bihar may prefer the latter project.

Shri L. N. Mishra: In reply to part (c), may I know, Sir, whether there are some international conventions on such matters?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, Sir.

Shrimati Sushama Sen: May I know, Sir, what relief the Central Government propose to give to the 5 lakhs people who have been affected by the recent Kosi flood?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The question of immediate relief, Sir, lies within the province of the State Government.

Shri B. E. Bhagat: May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of Government to prepare an integrated project estimate of the Belka-Kosi project or to take up this dam piecemeal?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Well, Sir, the information given shows that we are aiming at a smaller but still an integrated project.

MANGANESE ORE AND MICA

*1778. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that of late there has been a fall in the demand from abroad for manganese ore and mica?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the same?

(c) What has been the loss of Revenue on this account in the year 1951-52 as compared with the figures for the year 1950-51?

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

(a) There has been a fall in the demand from abroad for certain varieties of mica. There is no fall in the demand for manganese ore.

(b) The demand for mica has always been of a fluctuating nature. The immediate cause for a decline in exports is said to be the improved stock position in some of the buying countries.

(c) There has been no loss of Revenue on this account.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is the fall in demand a temporary one or something like permanent?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We hope it is a temporary one, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, do the Government of India keep figures of stocks in the country, and if so, what are the stocks of manganese ore and mica at the present moment.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information, Sir.

Shri Nana Das: Will Government be able to tell us how long this lull in the demand for mica from abroad will continue and whether Government proposes to take any steps to obviate the danger and save the mica industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The first part of the question, I am afraid, is a thing which I am unable to answer with any precision. As regards the second, I would like to have notice.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what are the countries to which mica and manganese are exported and what is the total value of that export?