

(d) Is it a fact that cotton production in 1951-52 was highest in recent years?

(e) What are the reasons for importing the largest amount of cotton from foreign countries in 1951-52?

(f) What were the prices at which foreign cotton was imported in each year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a), (c) and (f). Statements are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 13.]

(b) Short staple cotton is not imported.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The amount of cotton imported was according to the estimate of our requirements.

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

***887. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total amount of loans advanced by the Government of India to displaced persons in the various States in each of the years 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) What amount has been realised out of these loans in each year?

(c) What was the interest, if any, due on these loans in each year?

(d) What was the total loan outstanding on 31st March, 1952?

(e) What was the total interest outstanding on that date?

(f) What is the policy so far as the recovery of these loan and interest are concerned?

(g) Are Government aware that many persons who were permanent residents of India claimed to be displaced persons and obtained big loans?

(h) Have any such cases been brought to the notice of Government?

(i) What is the number of such persons and the amount of loan taken by them?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (i). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

FIVE YEAR PLAN

***888. Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state whether a start has been made with the First Five Year Plan and if so, what are the States where it is in operation?

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(b) Do Government propose to furnish details of the efforts that are being made in the first year?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes, in all States.

(b) Yes. A report on the working of the Plan during its first year will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

STEEL (IMPORTS)

***900. { Shri Jhunjhunwala:
Pandit M. R. Bhargava:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the country-wise imports of steel made by the Government of India during the last five years and the price at which steel was imported from the different sources during this period; and

(b) the quarter-wise allocation of steel made to the 15 categories of users of iron and steel during the above period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 14.]

COARSE AND MEDIUM CLOTH

***901. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government propose to grant freely licenses for the export of coarse and medium cloth to all permissible destinations?

(b) If so, for what period these licenses will be valid?

(c) What was the quota fixed for the export of coarse and medium cloth for the period January to June, 1952?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Export of coarse and medium cloth is being allowed freely from 17th May 1952 onwards for shipment upto the 31st August, 1952.

(c) The quota originally fixed was 100 million yards plus a carry-over of 75 million yards from the previous year.