

setting up autonomous bodies, the Public Service Commission has been authorised to make appointments?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is trying to argue.

Shri A. C. Guha: That has been done in recent legislations.

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of argument.

Shri A. C. Guha: Some modification in the law.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He may proceed to the next question.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether there is any proposal to change the law in view of the irregularities?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question No. 1049.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, I have four questions in my name. If I am allowed to put only three, I would like to forego this (No. 1049), and I would put only No. 1054.

Mr. Speaker: He may take his chance. If it is not reached, he would not be able to put it. So, the hon. Member is, not putting Question No. 1049?

Shri A. C. Guha: I am not putting it, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: No. 1050.

TRADE BALANCE

*1050. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the main reasons for the contrast between favourable balance of Rs. 21.42 crores in 1950-51 and trade deficit of over Rs. 156 crores in 1951-52?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to improve the trade balance of our country?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (**Shri Karmarkar**): (a) The main reasons for heavier adverse balance of trade in 1951-52 were:—

(i) Large imports of foodgrains.

(ii) Large imports of cotton and certain other important raw materials.

(b) The special reasons referred to in (a) above are not likely to prevail, to the same extent in future. Besides, Government adjust from time to time, their export and import policies suitably.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that accumulation of stocks of some non-essential goods has been made in this country because of the import policy,

and, if so, what are those goods?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: What is the total amount spent on the import of luxury goods?

Shri Karmarkar: We have banned the import of luxury goods. It depends upon what he considers to be luxury goods.

NON-ESSENTIAL CONSUMER GOODS (IMPORT)

*1051. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the import figures of non-essential consumer goods during the second half of the year 1951?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (**Shri Karmarkar**): I do not know what consumer goods the hon. Member regards as non-essential goods. If a list of such items is supplied, the information will be laid on the Table of the House.

For my own information we had a small list of what are considered as non-essential goods: Animals living, apparel, furniture, tobacco manufactures, wood and timber manufactures, postal articles, etc. The whole of it from July to December came to Rs. 5,80,00,000—if these are considered non-essential articles.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury: Will the hon. Minister repeat? We cannot hear.

Shri Karmarkar: I do not know what consumer goods the hon. Member regards as non-essential goods. If a list of such items is supplied, the information will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Barman: May I know whether the Government imports face powders, cosmetics.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Karmarkar: They are non-essentials. We are discouraging the import of such articles.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether lipsticks are allowed to be imported?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

COAL IN ASSAM AND NORTH BENGAL

*1052. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast reserve of coal in Assam, Garo Hills and in Bagracota of North Bengal;