

Kumari Anne Mascarene: May I know the price of coffee here for consumption within the country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The hon. Member could get the information, if she goes to the India Coffee House.

Sardar Sukam Singh: Is it a fact that only specified number of persons are allowed to bid at the auction for release of coffee for internal consumption?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot give any answer without verification. Actually this is done by the coffee board.

Kumari Anne Mascarene: On a point of order, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: There may be so many points of order, but let us not take the time from the question hour.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know what is the quantity of coffee exported to the United States? In view of the fact that that country consumes an enormous amount of coffee, what efforts are being made to popularise Indian coffee there? And what is the rate of expansion of our exports to that country from year to year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In regard to details of quantities exported to countries abroad, countrywise, I am afraid I have to ask for notice. But in regard to popularisation of our Coffee in the United States, the hon. Member will recollect that the quantity available for export is so small that it would not be worth our while to spend any money on doing propaganda for our coffee elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. lady Member can state her point of order now.

Kumari Anne Mascarene: The price of coffee varies in the different parts of the country. I asked the hon. the Minister whether it is fixed by Government and the answer given by the hon. the Minister is that I should go and ask the India Coffee House. That does not require his advice.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri S. C. Samanta: From the statement, I find that the home consumption of coffee is increasing day by day. May I know whether any steps have been taken by the Government to produce more coffee in places other than South India also?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid this is a matter on which it is very difficult for my Ministry to give an answer, because the Coffee Board

is almost an autonomous body. Its set up is such that one section of it does research work in regard to yield and additional plantation, while the other section is working purely on the marketing side. There is very little co-ordination between the two sections, except through the Chairman of the Board. I quite realise that Government's control in this matter is not adequate, and so we are considering proposals for amendment of the Act, so that there will be co-ordinated activity between the Government and the Coffee Board. But at the moment, I am unable to give any definite reply.

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

***1873. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total number of displaced persons from East Bengal who have been admitted into camps or sent direct to rehabilitation colonies since the 1st April, 1951?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The number of displaced persons admitted into camps is 93,159 and those sent to rehabilitation colonies direct is 12,972.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the daily average number of displaced persons that are coming at present from East Bengal?

Shri A. P. Jain: I want notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In view of the fact that the economic saturation point of West Bengal has been reached, may I know what further arrangements have been made for the displaced persons that are coming in at present?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as the saturation point is concerned, opinions differ. I think there has been quite a good amount of congestion in West Bengal, and we have not made so far any arrangements outside; we are trying to make arrangements for sending West Bengal Refugees outside West Bengal. But that will ultimately depend upon the extent to which the West Bengal Government is prepared to send them out.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to the Statement in the '*Hindustan Standard*' of today that such a saturation point has been reached, as has been expressed by the hon. the Minister for Rehabilitation of West Bengal, and may I know whether any further arrangements have been made, as was contemplated by the hon. the Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: In fact multiple arrangements were made on the express condition that the West Bengal Government will send the requisite number of displaced persons for colonisation outside Bengal. But on almost all occasions,—except if I remember right, one—the West Bengal Government failed in its efforts to send out displaced persons outside West Bengal. Of course I am excluding Bihar and Orissa. Even in that particular case when arrangements were made for about 500 families, the West Bengal Government succeeded in sending only 200 or 300 families. Every time that I make arrangements for setting up a colony outside Bengal, I want to be assured that the West Bengal Government will be able to resist the disinclination of the refugees to go outside West Bengal, and send out the requisite number of refugees.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the site of an old aerodrome has been acquired and four storeyed buildings will be built there for the accommodation of these displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, the site has not so far been acquired but the matter is under consideration.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know, Sir, what arrangements have been made for relieving the congestion at the Sealdah Station where refugees are congesting?

Shri A. P. Jain: These refugees are being transferred to transit camps where they will be carefully scrutinised and further sent to other work centres or rehabilitation colonies.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any number fixed for daily removal of refugees from Sealdah to transit camps?

Shri A. P. Jain: No.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know, Sir, the total number now in Sealdah station?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not have those figures.

Jonab Amjad Ali: May I know, Sir, how many refugees have been sent to Assam, Andaman and Nicobar islands and Mysore?

Shri A. P. Jain: We do not send any refugees to Assam. So far as Assam is concerned, refugees walk into Assam. We have not sent any to Mysore. I cannot give figures about Andamans.

Shri Biren Dutt: May I know, Sir, how many refugees are at present settled in Tripura?

Shri A. P. Jain: The total number would be about 81,000.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know, Sir, if in view of the fact that an increased number of refugees has been coming to West Bengal in recent months, Government propose to increase the financial grants for refugee rehabilitation in West Bengal?

Shri A. P. Jain: At present there is no proposal to increase the rehabilitation grant, but, of course, everything depends upon how things progress.

INDO-PAKISTAN INFORMATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

*1874. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what were the main recommendations of the Indo-Pakistan Information Consultative Committee?

(b) How far have they been carried out by both the countries?

(c) What is the number of complaints made both by India and Pakistan for infringement of the agreements or arrangements made?

(d) How many newspapers and periodicals were banned entry into both the countries and how many are still banned?

(e) Is the Press Sub-Committee to examine the comments and reports in newspapers of the two countries still in existence?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 12.]

(c) Complaints are continuously exchanged regarding infringements of the Agreement and the time and labour involved, therefore, in collecting the information required from the year 1948 will not be commensurate with the results achieved.

(d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 12.]

(e) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the sub-committee appointed by the Joint Press Committee of the All India Newspaper Editors Conference and Pakistan Newspaper Editors Conference for emergency consultation in regard to publications in the press in the two Bengals. These are non-official organisations.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether the Sub-Committee formed by the newspapermen of both the countries have given any report, official or non-official, to our Government?

Dr. Keskar: There has been no official report of the meetings of which there were only two.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, the trend of comments of newspapers at present in both the countries about disputed matters?

Dr. Keskar: It is a rather very general and difficult question to answer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is rather difficult for him to answer that question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the attention of the hon. Minister been drawn to some reports published sometime ago in DAWN and some other papers about some riots during the Holi days in Bihar and U.P. and also some riots in Calcutta on 7th May, and whether Government have verified if the reports are true or false; if so, what action has the Government taken?

Dr. Keskar: The attention of the Government has been drawn to these reports. In fact, we continuously draw the attention of the Pakistan Government to such reports which are published in their papers and which have no foundation or are exaggerated.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know, Sir, if the Government has taken any steps to counteract the effect of this false propaganda in the international world also?

Dr. Keskar: Wherever necessary and possible this is done, but it is not possible for us continuously to contradict statements which are published daily.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Does Government ever verify that the contradictions which are issued by our Government are published in the Pakistani papers?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice to find out the exact number of contradictions that are published.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Out of all protests made or complaints lodged, has there been a single case in which Pakistan admitted our complaint?

Dr. Keskar: Sir, it is difficult for me to say off-hand. I will have to look into all the complaints. A section of the complaints I have got with me for one quarter and there are hundreds of them.

Shri A. C. Guha: Can the hon. Minister tell us what has been the effect of the recent report in Pakistan papers about the riot in Tipperah as

regards the security of the minorities in East Bengal?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice.

EXPORTS TO U.S.A.

***1875. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of India's exports to the U.S.A. in the year 1951-52; and

(b) whether the export figure for 1951-52 shows any increase over the export figure for 1950-51?

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

(a) The total value of India's exports to the U.S.A. in the year 1951-52 including re-exports was Rs. 132.18 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir. The export figure for 1951-52 shows an increase over the export figure for 1950-51 to the extent of Rs. 16.83 crores.

PAKISTANIS IN INDIA WITHOUT PERMITS

***1876. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistan nationals detected so far who have entered the Indian Dominion either without valid permits or whose permits have expired;

(b) the number of such persons removed and the number otherwise dealt with; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on their removal?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Information in the manner required, is not readily available. However about 5,500 convictions for various offences under the influx from Pakistan Control Act have been reported so far by State Governments.

(c) About Rs. 40,000 were spent in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52.

Shri B. K. Das: How many have been convicted on the charge of espionage?

Shri A. P. Jain: We do not keep separate figures.

Shri B. K. Das: What is the annual expenditure incurred over this?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have said, Sir, that in two years—1950-51 and 1951-52 Rs. 40,000 were spent.