

one individual and have also decided not to recognize "Benami" transactions.

JAPANESE PROPERTIES CONFISCATED DURING WAR

455. Shri Badshah Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of costs in terms of rupees on the upkeep or other expenses involved in managing the properties of the Japanese Government and of Japanese nationals confiscated by India when the war between Japan and India began?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No properties of the Japanese Government or of Japanese nationals were confiscated. Such properties were vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property in India under orders issued by the Central Government from time to time. Total cost of upkeep of the Japanese properties in India has not yet been computed.

COLLIERY LABOUR (RECRUITMENT)

456. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the system of recruitment of labour through contractors still continues in Indian collieries; and

(b) since the prohibition of employment of women underground in collieries, to what extent has the production of collieries improved and to what extent have the wages of the underground male worker increased?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Extensive steps have been taken by the private sector of the industry to eliminate the contract labour system. The system has also been abolished in 9 out of 11 railway collieries and steps are being taken to abolish it from the remaining 2 collieries as well.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

न्यूनतम मजूरी अधिनियम

*४५७. डा० सत्यवादी: क्या अम मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में अब तक किन किन राज्यों ने न्यूनतम मजूरी अधिनियम के अनुसार स्थानीय प्राधिकारों के निम्न वेतन वाले कर्मचारियों के लिये न्यूनतम मजूरियां निर्दिष्ट की हैं ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): I invite the attention of my friend to the statement laid on the Table of the House on the 16th July 1952 in reply to his unstarred question No. 428.

MICA EXPORTS FROM MADRAS STATE

459. Shri Nana Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity and value of the mica exported out of the Madras State during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 32.]

ACCIDENTS IN NELLORE MICA MINES

460. Shri Nana Das: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents which occurred at the Mica mines in Nellore District Madras State and how many resulted in loss of life during the years 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) in how many cases compensation was paid and what are the individual amounts; and

(c) how many cases are still pending payment of compensation?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The number of accidents in the mica mines in Nellore district during these years is as follows:

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Total accidents including fatal accidents	6	5	6	6	7	8	12	5
Number of fatal accidents	1	4	2	2	1	1	3	3

(b) and (c). Compensation is being paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, which is administered by State Governments. It is therefore regretted that Government of India have no information.

BICYCLES

461. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bicycles produced by Indian manufacturers in 1951-52; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to make India self-sufficient in the matter of bicycles?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 114,275 in 1951 and 58,401 up to the end of May 1952.

(b) The capacity of the existing factories together with that of the new factories which have been sanctioned is expected to meet the demand of the country.

WORK CHARGED ESTABLISHMENT (PAY SCALE).

462. Shri Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the pay scales of the work charged establishment at—

- (i) Damodar Valley Project
- (ii) Hirakud Project
- (iii) Nangal Bhakhra Project;

(b) the minimum wage that is being paid at each of the above mentioned works to the following categories of workers—

- (i) Sweepers
- (ii) Chaukidars
- (iii) Cleaners
- (iv) Unskilled workers
- (v) those engaged in digging and carrying loads, etc., and messengers, peons, etc.;

(c) whether any minimum wage has been fixed in the case of stone breakers and road makers there; and

(d) whether any minimum wage has been fixed for any other categories?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

463. Shri Jasani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) all steps so far been taken by Government to encourage the Cottage Industries in the country;

(b) what was the total expenditure incurred for this purpose during the 3 financial years ending on 31st March, 1952 and how this amount was spent; and

(c) the amount provided for the purpose in 1952-53 Budget?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) I would refer the hon. Member to the

Cottage Industries special number of the Journal of Industry and Trade for June 1952.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 33.]

(c) Rs. 20 lakhs.

BRANCHES OF PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

464. Shri C. N. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses incurred by the Press Information Bureau in its branches at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras in 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) the main functions of these branches; and

(c) whether Government propose to continue these branches in future?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). A statement showing expenditure incurred on the Branch Offices of the Press Information Bureau at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52, and their main functions is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 34.]

(c) Yes.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

465. Shri C. N. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses incurred in the Office of the Director of Commercial Intelligence at Calcutta in 1950, 1951 and 1952 on staff and publications; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for effecting economy?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Precise information is not available. It will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) Yes, Sir.

A. I. R. STATION, MYSORE

466. Shri Madiab Gowda: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what improvements have been effected in the A.I.R. station at Mysore after it has been taken over by the Centre?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Disc recording facilities were provided at the