

16th June 1952, over 3,300 messages were received out of which about 800 were used in AIR's news bulletins.

#### JUTE PRICES

\*1226. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made to the Government of India to fix up the minimum price of jute every year on the line of sugarcane; and

(b) if so, what are the main points of argument in the said representation; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

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

(a) to (c). As a result of fall in prices, Government have received several representations suggesting the fixation of minimum prices for raw jute. It is argued that fall of raw jute prices may adversely affect the growing of jute. In this connection, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that the price of raw jute very much depends on the extent of demand for jute goods in the foreign markets. As I indicated in my speech in connection with the Demands for Grants for my Ministry, Government is watching the position and will take such steps as may be called for in the circumstances.

#### PRICE OF COAL

\*1227. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in prices of coal per ton at Patna, Motihari, Chupra, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga; and

(b) the Railway freight per ton of coal from coal pit to the above mentioned stations?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.

#### IRON AND STEEL PRICES

\*1228. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in prices (per ton) of Iron and Steel between Patna, Motihari, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Savan (in Soran district);

(b) whether Iron and Steel is dispatched direct to the above destinations by the producers; and

(c) the Railway freight per ton to the above mentioned stations from production centres?

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

(a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 18.]

(b) Yes, provided that the quantity involved on each occasion is not less than a wagon-load (20 tons).

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 19.]

#### COTTON (EXPORT AND IMPORT)

\*1229. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of cotton exported during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 and the countries to which it was exported giving price per maund;

(b) the amount of cotton imported during the said period with names of the countries from which it was imported giving price per maund respectively;

(c) total production of cotton during the said period yearwise; and

(d) the amount of cotton required for home consumption during a year for mills, for hand-loom industry, and for other purposes respectively?

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

(a) to (d). Statements are laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexures Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23.]

#### INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT, LONDON

\*1230. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the monthly salary in terms of rupees of the highest paid employee in the Indian Stores Department, London, with his nationality?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** Rs. 1,900 per month (excluding allowances); Indian.

#### MACHINE TOOL FACTORY, BANGALORE

\*1231. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly salary of the General Manager or other highest officer in charge of the Machine Tool Factory, Bangalore; and